

REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES, INCLUDING WOMAN, LASH OUT AT DEMOCRATIC FOES

R.V. TIMES 10/30/52

Mrs. Olive L. Knight, Nominee for Town Treasurer, Replies to Robert Harrop, West Warwick Treasurer.

West Warwick Republicans including Mrs. Olive L. Knight, candidate for town treasurer, who took to the platform for the first time in the many years she has been a member of the party, last night lashed back at the Democratic administration for misleading the people in "attempts to cover" the GOP record in 1946 to 1948 and "with evading" the issues of this election campaign. Angered at being called at fault, Mrs. Knight said that if the

incumbent town treasurer, Robert Harrop, says that the Republicans did not have \$200,000 in the savings account when they left office in 1948 and that there was only \$115,000 in that account, he should tell about the \$85,000. "If Mr. Harrop thought I was going to take his statement, he was all wrong. I still say we left \$200,000 in the savings account at Old Colony Co-operative Bank to draw interest and that today there is only \$115,000."

Meunier Speaks

Roland E. Meunier, who was chairman of the meeting, said: "Isn't it a significance that during the past four years \$85,000 has been taken out of the savings account and there is \$79,000 less in the operating account." I ask Harrop to state publicly in the newspapers or to disclose before five people, not affiliated with either party in company with newspaper reports the figures in the Old Colony Co-operative Bank savings account from 1946 to 1948 to see whether or not there have been any withdrawals. I also ask him to make public the book of deposits," he said.

Health Menace

Harold H. Hayes, candidate for school committee, said DeCiantis, town solicitor, "doesn't have West Warwick at heart when he criticizes improvements made to the school buildings" by the Republicans because they, after being told by the Democrats that they couldn't get the work done to the toilets at Highland Street School, Phenix, to overcome an odor nuisance and health menace which had been in existence for 25 years, contacted local plumbers, and then had to go to an out-of-town plumber to do the job because he was the only one able to do it.

"At the present time a boiler is being installed at Harris Avenue School by an out-of-town plumber. Why wasn't this job completed last summer and why wasn't it given to a local plumber?" This is a question I want DeCiantis to answer," Hayes said.

Hayes also asked, "If it is interfering in the school affairs to assist the school committee on matters of school maintenance, how does Mr. DeCiantis justify himself for having in his possession school committee records that he is using for political purposes?"

Hayes also said that he was advised by the superintendent of schools, also Vincent Lukowicz, the Democratic member, that the Democrats had tried to get this work done, but could not find a local plumber who could furnish the material. We appealed to Meunier and Lefebvre for help and finally a plumber was found to do the work. If DeCiantis will remember, during the years 1942 to 1950, materials for this work was scarce and you had to find a plumber who had the supplies and could do the job, which we completed. The teachers at Highland Street School will testify that it was a job sadly neglected but finally done."

School Teachers' Wages

Speaking about teachers' salaries, Hayes said, "We had a meet-

(Continued on page 2, col. 1)

Republican Candidates, Including Woman, Lash Out at Democratic Foes

(Continued from page 1)

ing with the school teachers regarding an increase in wages. Miss Quinn informed us that the wages could not be raised on the present school appropriation but we raised the teachers' wages the first of that year, 45 days after taking office. The Republican party gave the school teachers more increase of salaries in two years than the Democrats gave them the previous 15 years."

Hayes also said that the first thing the school committee did after they came into power in 1946 was to make a survey of the schools. "The Democratic member, Vincent Lukowicz did not go on this survey, as he was too busy." Continuing, Hayes said, "We found in the senior high that the boilers had no water safety controls. In the junior high, the fire extinguishers had not been recharged for four years. All the schools were in need of various repairs."

Ernest E. Lefebvre lashed at DeCiantis for trying to "smear me or to make people believe there may have been something wrong." Referring to DeCiantis' charges that he interfered in the school committee regarding hiring a Woonsocket plumber to make repairs at Highland Street School, Lefebvre said: "I dare him to find papers relative to the purchase of any equipment where a doubt could be cast at me or my administration. He says I sold \$192.50 worth of gasoline and oil to the Democrats since they have been in power. If he can show me any such bills received by the Democrats in the last four years, I will pay for an ad in the newspaper, to have the bills printed. I sold them only materials they couldn't buy at any other place. I can show him where they are buying goods in other places and my price is 20 cents lower on the dollar. They do this because I am a Republican."

Compare Records

Lefebvre also said, "Tonight I want to make a comparison of the Democratic record with our re-

cord of two years of administration of the town affairs. During our administration from 1946 to 1948 we set up four fire stations with living facilities for members in each department, plus other facilities for the storage of equipment and alarm service and two new heating systems in the stations. This was done while we eliminated the fire tax which averaged \$2.50 per \$1000 of valuation.

"We bought 2-way radio systems for the police departments and all new cars. We bought an ambulance; established snow removal; bought a considerable amount of equipment for recreation for children and constructed bleachers at the athletic field; increased the post-war savings account by \$50,000 and remember, this was done while we reduced the taxes from \$2.35 to \$2.25.

"Now let's look at the other page of the record since the Democrats have been in power. There have been no major improvements in our fire stations; they did not have to buy police radios; they did not have to buy an ambulance; they have absolutely forgotten about snow removal; they did not purchase any more equipment for playgrounds; they ceased to take out \$25,000 per year out of income to put into the post-war fund; they increased the valuation on properties in the business center by as much as \$16,000 on one single building, which was absolute discrimination; they have decreased the general surplus by taking money to cover their deficit; they have withdrawn \$85,000 from the savings account at the old Colony Co-operative Bank, which was set aside for a new municipal building."

Lefebvre questioned, "What has been done with this \$85,000? Was this also used to cover deficits created by poor management? They have changed the fiscal year so that this year they are operating on a 12-month income for 10 months of expenses which, in effect, is equivalent to approximately a 16 per cent increase on your taxes or equivalent to an increase in the tax rate to \$3.50 per \$1000."

Meunier said that the Democrats, by their type of campaign on all levels, show that they are afraid of the election outcome. We have disproved their claims. We did according to Harrop, nothing from 1946 to 1948. The people are not being fooled.

People can see. It's political ballyhoo. They say we did everything wrong. Of course, on the national scale, the Democrats have only been in power for 20 years.

Meunier introduced Joseph Pelliccione and Richard J. Salvus, candidates for representative from the first and third districts, respectively; Henry Regauld, Peter Lemoi and Domenico Petrarca, candidates for the town council; Rosario Russi, candidate for tax assessor; Lionel Belisle, candidate for town sergeant; Harold C. Knight, chairman of the Republican town committee.

Meunier announced the Republicans will round out their campaign at a get-together rally Sunday night at Congdon's Hall, Arctic.

School Action Upheld by GOP

Republicans Defend
Plumbing Work
Done in West Warwick

Pawtuxet Valley Office, Telephone
15 Washington Street, VA 1-8200
West Warwick, VA 1-7067

West Warwick Republicans last night defended their action in hiring a Woonsocket plumber during their 1946-48 regime to make repairs at Highland Street School, criticized by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, saying no local plumbers had the men or materials necessary at the time.

Roland E. Meunier, former town solicitor, and Ernest E. Lefebvre, state senator candidate and former GOP council president, denied DeCiantis' charges of political interference in school affairs, saying they had assisted the school board by request, as members of a special building committee. This was confirmed by Harold H. Hayes, a GOP school committeeman at the time.

Declaring that unsanitary conditions at the school were deplorable, Meunier asked, "Is helping to bring about better conditions in the schools interference, or is it interference to get confidential files and use them for political purposes? Who authorized DeCiantis to take papers on the contract—the school committee or the superintendent? As town solicitor, can he take any paper and use it for political purposes in untruthful and self-serving statements?"

He said officials at the time approached every plumber in town to do the job and were refused "so we found a contractor, with the full consent of the Democratic member of the school committee, Vincent J. Lukowicz, who joined in hiring the Woonsocket contractor."

Meunier said both Lukowicz and Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, said at the time no one could be found to do the job among local plumbers.

Turning the tables, Hayes said an East Greenwich plumber now is installing a boiler at Harris Avenue School and asked, "Why wasn't this job completed last summer, and why wasn't it given to a local plumber?"

HARROP SAYS G. O. P. SPENT 70% OF TOWN FUNDS IN 6 MONTHS

Robert J. Harrop, incumbent West Warwick Democratic town treasurer, charged at the rally at Crompton last night that the Republican party spent 70 per cent of the appropriated funds in the first six months of 1949 and if they hadn't been defeated at the polls "their immature financing would have wrecked the financial stability of this town."

Lashing out at Roland E. Meunier and Mrs. Olive L. Knight, former GOP town committee chairman and Republican candidate for town treasurer, respectively, Harrop said that to further prove that the Republican party grossly over-expended during the first six months of 1948, they had spent more than one-half of all but three appropriation accounts.

Examples Cited

As examples, he cited the following appropriation accounts: school department, sum spent by Republicans in six months, \$159,979.39—balance left Democrats to run town for six months, \$112,894.14; police department, sum spent, \$31,805.93 — balance left, \$18,394.14; highway department, sum spent, \$44,808.97—balance left, \$12,291.03; supplies and expenses, sum spent, \$2626.74—balance left, \$1373.26; public welfare, sum spent, \$9548.76; balance left, \$1807.13; town property, sum spent, \$3562.91—balance left, \$1,637.09.

Harrop said it is of special interest (Continued on page 3, col. 5)

Harrop Says G. O. P. Spent 70% of Town Funds in 6 Months

(Continued from page 1)

Interest to note that the expenditures in the highway department, public welfare department and for town property were made before the winter, traditionally the months that require larger spendings in these accounts.

Says Operating Account "Raided"
Continuing, Harrop said: "I ask

the Republican party why, on Nov. 19, 1948, two days after their defeat at the polls and after spending over 70 per cent of the appropriated funds, they deliberately raided the town's operating account, to deposit the money in a surplus account and set up for themselves a paper balance so that the future they get the type of cheap political publicity they now are putting in the newspapers?"

Walking over to the two reporters attending the rally, Harrop said Meunier asked me to show the balance in the savings account in Old Colony Co-operative Bank. The balance was shown to be \$115,000. Meunier said Wednesday night that when the Republicans left office in 1948 there was \$200,000 in that account. Harrop said the most town income comes in during the tax collection months of October and November and it would be easy to put the collections in the savings account instead of the checking

account where they actually be-

Harrop said, "I ask Meunier to tell about these over-expenditures. Where were they going in 1948? Were they looking for a Christmas present?"

\$60 Boost Revealed In Councilmen's Pay

EVENING BULLETIN 10/31/52

Increase Voted by West Warwick Council July 9 at Special Meeting

The West Warwick Town Council raised its members' salaries at a special meeting three months ago "in conformity with appropriations made at the financial town meeting May 20," but did not make the action public.

Inspection of town council minutes confirmed that raises from \$300 to \$360 a year, retroactive to May 1, were voted at a meeting last July 9.

Harry F. McKanna Jr., town council president, said yesterday afternoon that the \$360 amount

proposed for councilmen's salaries was made known at a budget hearing prior to the town meeting and that each taxpayer received a summary of all town officers' salaries at the annual town meeting, which listed the proposed \$360. No mention was made that a councilmen's raise was involved.

Democratic officials at the pre-town meeting budget hearing on May 16 were asked what town officials' raises were included in the budget as set up. They enumerated several raises for other town officials, but said nothing to reporters about the \$360 constituting a raise for them. Stories at the time carried the \$360 figure for councilmen without indicating it was a raise, although raises proposed for several other officials were indicated.

Present at the special meeting where the raises in councilmen's pay from \$25 to \$30 a month were voted on July 9 were McKanna, Councilmen Hervey Niquette, Thomas Mello and Antonio Paul.

Salary raises have been a hot issue in the town this year. Police hired legal counsel to represent them at the town meeting and got a 20 per cent raise. The highway department, in maneuvering prior to the town meeting, sought raises, but did not get them.

Although the town meeting resolution provided 20 per cent raises for all policemen except the chief, only non-permanent member of the force, the council later voted him a 20 per cent raise, too. This brought a request from Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca and Sewer Supt. Andrew Gough that they get the same raise as Police Chief Groleau. The requests were taken under advisement and are still in that status, as far as is known.

At a Democratic rally in Crompton last night, McKanna, in describing work of various town officers, said that "the five councilmen are paid \$360 a year and put in a tremendous number of hours to do the job."

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who was not holding office when councilmen's raises were voted, said yesterday that councilmen have the power to raise their own salaries, under law, so long as an appropriation is available. He said it is not required that their salary boosts as elective officers be voted on in the form of a special resolution at a town meeting.

TRAVEL JOURNAL 10/31/52

Councilman Pay Boost Revealed

Action Taken by West Warwick Body Months Ago Never Publicized

Pawtucket Valley Office, Telephone 15 Washington Street, VA 1-8200 West Warwick, VA 1-7067

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R.V. TIMES 10/21/52

DE CIANTIS AVERS HAYES WAS MISLED INTO READING STATEMENT BY MEUNIER

Democratic Solicitor Defies Claim Made by
Republican School Board Candidate Re-
garding Out of Town Business.

Michael DeCiantis, fiery West Warwick Democratic campaigner said last night that Harold Hayes former Republican school committeeman will feel "like shooting Roland E. Meunier" after he reads the newspapers and discovers "how he was misled into reading Meunier's statement" at the GOP rally Wednesday night.

DeCiantis said that Hayes by doing the bidding of Meunier and Ernest E. Lefebvre, Republican candidate for state senator made "the biggest boner of his life" Wednesday night when he said that the Democrats don't want to do business in this town and have hired an East Greenwich plumber to put in a new boiler in the Harris Avenue School. "What a mistake. The job is being done by the West Warwick Oil Company owned by Thomas F. Cawley who operates on Curson Street, right across from Ernest Lefebvre."

Speaking to nearly 150 at the Democratic rally in Crompton PNA hall, DeCiantis was furthering his charges that the Republican overlook local contractors and hired a Woonsocket plumber to install toilet facilities at the High-

land Street School, Phenix.

DeCiantis said, "Hayes doesn't know that the old school committee including the late Andrew Faulds, Vincent Lukowicz and Dr. Irene M. Guertin got two bids to do that job at Phenix and that the lowest bidder was Robert Graham of Main Street, Riverpoint. I saw Graham today and he said the old school committee gave him the contract but he didn't do the job because he couldn't get the materials."

Bid Was Lower

"I checked with Cuthbert Dubois of the Dubois & Son plumbing Company on Leaf Street, Centreville, and he said he bid on the job but he never heard what happened until he learned a man from Woonsocket got the job for a price about \$11,000 higher. I told him I was going to tell it and he said go ahead. He also said to me that Lefebvre took the plumbing job at the Crompton fire station away from him. He said to me, 'We didn't even have a smell on that job and I could tell that too'."

"They never thought they could get caught in such a trap, but I

(Continued on page 3, col. 3)

De Ciantis Avers Hayes Was Misled Into Reading Statement by Meunier

(Continued from page 1)

proceeded in my own little way to check up in Crompton. I found out Lefebvre sold everything necessary for the job for over \$1400 and that he had another job at the fire station in Lippitt and he got \$125. for doing it.

"Lefebvre says I am trying to smear him. I am only telling the facts. When he was president of the town council he did \$6300. worth of business with practically every department in the town. If you have a president of a town council who does that much business how can another businessman get a chance to do any business with the town."

"I conclude that any man in the town government ought not to contract with the town to do business himself because he is an interested party. No one has the right because they are on the inside. It applies to the Democrats as well as to the Republicans."

All Records Made Public

"Continuing DeCiantis said, they tell you it's a shame for me to go into the school department for the records. I say all the records at the town hall are public business and anyone who wants to see any records can go there and look at it. When Meunier and Lefebvre came into office they changed the lock on the doors of the town hall 'but the people ran them out.'"

DeCiantis said, they attacked the police department. They said we didn't train our police officers like they did and that the town of Coventry headed by George Roche copied their training program. "Certainly we didn't need the state police because when we took over we appointed Chief Arthur Groleau and Captain Harry Miller, the best policemen in the state. Today we have a force of good, clean cut boys, always ready to give efficient and courteous service. The West Warwick Police Department is as good as any other in the state. They have received the plaudits of the federal district judge, Judge Leahy. Captain Miller has been given a merit honored by all policemen, a citation from J. Edgar Hoover, head of the FBI in Washington. I ask Meunier and Lefebvre, what more do you want?"

"Nearly All Resigned"

DeCiantis said when Gustav Olson was chief "nearly all the police resigned and Olson himself was ready to go because of Meunier and his daily trips to the police station."

DeCiantis said that Meunier and Lefebvre attempted in a round-about way to reflect on Miss Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent of schools, whom they referred to Wednesday night. Miss Quinn is the only woman in Rhode Island possessing a doctors degree from the college in Newport and yet they attempt to smear her, he added.

DeCiantis said that Meunier and Lefebvre are also accusing Chief Lionel P. Gareau of the fire department that his department is active politically and that the tax assessors are soaking the businessmen. "The fact is they are attempting to say we won't tell the truth but by tonight they are so tied up that they can't move."

"Audits Disprove Claim"

Charles J. Bourgault accused the Republicans for talking only about when they were in office from 1946 to 1948 and for not telling about the years ahead to 1954 which is the issue. Bourgault said that the annual audits of the town's books disprove the Republicans claim that something is wrong with the financial records.

"They holler only in October. Where are they in May the month of the financial meetings? Their absence in May is an indication they have nothing to talk about."

PENNAC Bulletin 10/21/52

DeCiantis Hits Back at GOP

Says Valley Plumber
Bid \$1000 Less Than
Outside Firm Hired

Declaring that West Warwick Republicans "are pulling more boners than usual," Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis last night denied GOP assertions that a Woonsocket plumber had to be hired to do a Phenix school repair job by the 1946-48 GOP-controlled school board because local plumbers could not do the job.

A local plumber, Cuthbert Dubois, bid about \$1000 less on the job than the Woonsocket firm did, DeCiantis declared.

DeCiantis also denied a charge by Harold H. Hayes, GOP councilman candidate and former school committeeman, that an East Greenwich plumber now is installing a boiler at Harris Avenue School.

He said, "for the information of Mr. Hayes, a good man being misled by Roland E. Meunier, who is still the Republican boss, the job is being done by the West Warwick Oil Co., owned by Frank Cawley, just across the street from Ernest Lefebvre (GOP senatorial candidate)."

DeCiantis called Hayes "a kindly man who is doing the bidding of Meunier and Lefebvre."

In a fiery speech, as the campaign nears a climax, DeCiantis charged that Lefebvre's oil company, when he was town council president in 1946-48, "got about \$6300 worth of business from every department in the town. If the president of the council does business with the town like that, how can any others get a chance?"

DeCiantis praised the efficiency of the police force, noting that Capt. Henry F. Miller had been cited by J. Edgar Hoover, and scored the GOP for advocating a state police conducted school for police.

Others who spoke or were introduced by Harry F. McKanna Jr., town council president, at the rally in P.N.A. Hall, Crompton, are Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb, James Scully, state committeeman, Police Chief Groleau, Sen. Dion Archambault, Town Sergeant Frank D. Boisvert, Councilmen Hervey Niquette, Antonio Paul, Thomas Mello and councilman candidate Chester Kulasewski, former town solicitor Charles J. Bourgault, John Zaborski, town auditor, Joseph Lawrence, public welfare director, and Henry Petrarca, highway commissioner.

Answering GOP criticism for obtaining school committee contract data "from confidential files," DeCiantis said that every record and paper in the town hall is a public record. He said Meunier and Lefebvre wanted to keep public information secret and "even changed the lock on the town hall."

DeCiantis said Police Chief Groleau was not a trained policeman when he took office, "but he has learned and he and Captain Miller have been commended by a U.S. district attorney and by Judge Leahy in Federal Court."

He charged that Gustaf Olson, chief under the GOP regime, "had Meunier there every day making life miserable for Olson and the men." He said Olson subsequently organized a GOP club and fought Meunier "and they're still fighting."

Charges by the GOP about school conditions constitute "a smear on Maisie Quinn, the only woman in Rhode Island with a doctor of education degree from the college in Newport and we're lucky to have her," DeCiantis said.

Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop continued his attack on finances under the GOP, saying that the GOP took \$200,000 from a checking account containing money just in from taxes, and needed for ordinary expenses, and put it in a savings account. He reiterated that he could do the same next month when tax payments came in, "but I would be deceiving you, and I'll tell Mrs. Knight (Mrs. Olive Knight, GOP treasurer aspirant) and Meunier, if it would be deceiving the taxpayers in 1952, it was in 1948."

He admitted that the savings fund now had gone down to \$115,000 as of the last fiscal year's end, but pointed out that not one account, but all funds, must be considered. When the GOP went out of office in 1948 there was \$145,000 in the post war fund, whereas there now is \$201,000, he said.

Rep. Thaddeus Kraus said he is still waiting for his GOP opponent to raise issues, adding "silence gives consent, to my way of thinking." He suggested that, as rallies seem to be declining, some civic group sponsor a forum at which both parties' candidates might appear on the same platform next election.

Chester Kulasewski, candidate for town councilman said also that the Republican party is a do-nothing party except during October of an election year. He pointed to the Democratic record the past four years including institution of the permanent police department and garbage collection. "Garbage collection put a stop to the back-yard dumps which were a menace to health" he added.

McKanna Presides

Harry F. McKanna Jr., emcee at the rally also called on the following: Town Clerk, Susan V. Lamb; Willie J. Regnaire, building inspector; Councilmen Thomas Mello, Herve Niquette and Antonio Paul; Hermenigilde Nadeau and Richard Hughes, tax assessors; Joseph Lawrence, director of public aid; John Zaborski, auditor; Police Chief Groleau; Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca; James Scully, candidate for clerk in Rep. Dist. 3, Vol. Dist. 3.

VOTERS OF WEST WARWICK

THE REPUBLICAN RECORD

We are responsible for the following improvements:

- A good and efficient Town fire department;
- Increase in teachers' salaries more in two years than the Democrats in 15 years;
- Set up four fire stations with modern equipment for complete protection of all sections;
- Reduced Town Taxes from \$2.35 to \$2.25 and eliminated Fire District Tax of \$2.50;
- Built up Post-war Fund by \$50,000.00;
- Built up Town Savings by \$211,000.00 and created a Bank Savings Account at interest of \$200,000.00;
- Improved Athletic Field grounds and installed bleachers;
- Improved school buildings that had been badly neglected by Democrats;
- Installed proper sanitary facilities at Highland St. School and removed a health menace which was a disgrace to the Town;
- Set up a proper recreation program for children and provided first class equipment;
- Set up snow removal;
- Re-equipped Highway Dept. and improved Town Garage;
- Ambulance service for public need in emergencies;
- Purchased new cars for Police Dept. and installed two-way radios;
- Cleaned the Town of Slot Machines and cleaned out undesirable dives that existed prior to November, 1946.

THE DEMOCRATIC RECORD

DEMOCRATIC MISMANAGEMENT:

- Failed to correct "smelly" conditions at Sewer Plant that affect residents of Natick, despite many promises to do so.
- Have increased tax valuations up to 30 per cent in one year.
- Started sewer extensions without telling people affected by installations of the large cost to each taxpayer of \$1,200.00 to \$1,500.00 for each home.
- School Committee Dept. has functioned for months with only two members and failed to replace Mr. Hand who is not a voter in West Warwick.
- Town Council has failed to function because of internal dissension. It is controlled and dictated by the Chief of Police who is not an elected official. A certain group among Democrats prevented him from being permanent because they wanted to keep him in politics.
- The Dictators in the Democratic Party wanted Mike DeCiantis as Town Solicitor to misstate and color the facts; Mike DeCiantis who defended the kind of conditions that existed in the Town until November, 1946
- Discontinued financial reports for each department.
- Operated with deficits and used up \$79,000.00 of the Town's surplus.
- Used up \$85,000.00 of the Town's money in Old Colony Bank.
- Allowed recreational equipment to deteriorate and failed to improve and expand the recreational program.
- Democrats will further raise taxes next year due to the inefficient operation and deficit spending.
- Changed fiscal year to receive a 12 months income for 10 months operation.
- Failed to make monthly reports of parking meter receipts to keep the people informed.

OUR PROGRAM FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO YEARS

- Full disclosure of expenses and revenue by complete department reports.
- Scientific Tax Survey to equalize the tax burden.
- Revision of Town Charter.
- Enlarged recreation program.
- Correction of bad condition at Town Dump and Athletic Field.
- Construction of storm sewers for street drainage.
- Creation of Local Police Training Program.
- A dental Clinic for school children.
- Bi-Partisan Planning Board enlarged for sectional representation.
- Improvement and construction of Town Buildings as necessity dictates.
- Elimination of bad condition at Sewer Plant.
- Reinstatement of sidewalk program for home owners.
- Construction of suitable public comfort station when site is available.
- Improvement of traffic and parking conditions.
- Renewal of snow removal in business sections.
- Town business based on proper planning with full publicity.

THE FOLLOWING ARE THE REPUBLICAN CANDIDATES FOR TOWN OFFICES AND THE STATE LEGISLATURE



The Republican Party in West Warwick urges you to support and elect these candidates on Tuesday, November 4th. Many of them were part of the administration from 1946-1948. All are able and capable, whose experience, background, age and interest in the Town in which they live and work guarantees a hard working and effective administration for the next two years, which should provide the Town with improvement, progress and operation on a sound financial basis.



ERNEST E. LEFEBVRE

Representative
1st District
**JOSEPH V.
PELLECCIONE**

Rhode Island Senator
ERNEST E. LEFEBVRE
Representative 2nd District
FLORENT A. HEBERT

Representative
3rd District
**RICHARD J.
SALVAS**



HENRY E. REGAULD

FOR
BETTER
GOVERNMENT
IN
THE
STATE

LOCAL CANDIDATES

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Town Clerk | Luke J. Smith |
| Town Council No. 1 | Henry E. Regauld |
| Town Council No. 2 | Harold H. Hayes |
| Town Council No. 3 | Domenico A. Petrarca |
| Town Council No. 4 | Peter E. Lemoi |
| Town Council No. 5 | Joseph A. Henault |
| Town Treasurer | Olive L. Knight |
| Town Sergeant | Lionel J. Belisle |
| Director of Public Welfare | Arthur J. Hebert |
| Tax Assessor | Rosario J. Russi |
| Tax Assessor | Medard L. Caron |
| School Committee | Dr. Mozart Maynard |
| School Committee | Peter D. Petrarca |

FOR
BETTER
GOVERNMENT
IN
THE
TOWN

A candidate with a record of civic interest. Former Pres. Town Council, former Pres. W. W. Chamber of Commerce, Former Pres. Narragansett Gun Club, Pres. Fuel Oil Dealers Association, active member of Lions Club West Warwick Lodge of Elks, West Warwick Eagles, Club Frontenac; has served on many committees for civic betterment. Always interested in the progress of the Town. A qualified candidate to represent the people of West Warwick in the State Senate.

A candidate interested in the Town; a progressive businessman; a lifelong resident of West Warwick; a graduate of West Warwick High School, a member of West Warwick Lodge of Elks; West Warwick Eagles, Narragansett Tribe of Red Men, Gibson Council, Knights of Columbus, and Father Wallace Assembly, Fourth Degree. Able - Reliable - Sincere.

VOTE REPUBLICAN

ALL THE WAY

PULL THE 3RD AND 4TH LEVERS

THE WEST WARWICK DEMOCRATIC PARTY REPORTS TO THE PEOPLE

CHECK THE RECORD

1. FIRE PROTECTION

1. More Fire Hydrants.
2. Two-Way Radio in Fire Trucks.
3. Additional Equipment.

2. POLICE PROTECTION

1. Three-Way Radio.
2. Increased Personnel.
3. Ambulance Service Expanded.

3. HIGHWAYS

1. Roads Rebuilt.
2. New Roads Built.
3. Drainage Projects Completed.
4. Highways Promptly Cleared and Sanded.

4. SANITATION

1. Completion of Sewers Under Way.
2. Sewer Plant Expanded.
3. Back Yard Garbage Collection.
(The Only One in the State!)

5. SCHOOLS

1. Repairs to Buildings—\$40,000.
2. Swimming Added to Recreation Program.
3. Citizens Committee to Study School Building Needs.

FORCED

KENT COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY TO
REDUCE EXORBITANT
WATER RATES

AND FORCED

RETURN OF \$80,000

OF OVERPAYMENTS TO THE PEOPLE

VOTE Straight
Democrat!

CHECK THE RECORD

- PARKING METERS INSTALLED.
- FREE PARKING LOTS
- PLANNING COMMISSION CREATED
- INCREASED PAY OF ALL TOWN EMPLOYEES
- ERECTED MEMORIAL TO WORLD WAR II VETERANS
- TRAFFIC ENGINEER EMPLOYED
- TAX EXEMPTION PROGRAM WHICH HAS BROUGHT NEW INDUSTRY TO TOWN
- ADDITION TO CROMPTON LIBRARY
- TEACHERS AUTOMATIC INCREASE IN PAY AND PENSIONS CONTINUED

IF YOU WANT TO KEEP THE WATER RATES DOWN ... VOTE DEMOCRAT!

P.K. TIMES 11/2/52

Democrats Confident of Victory

West Warwick Party Winds Up Its 1952 Election Appeal

The West Warwick Democratic Party climaxed their 1952 election campaign last night with a prediction they will receive a victory at the polls Tuesday. Rep. Thaddeus Kraus, Harry F. McKanna Jr., retiring town council president, and Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, all made the prediction at the rally at Turcotte's Hall, Arctic, attended by 100.

Robert J. Harrop, town treasurer, replied to the statement of Roland E. Meunier which appeared in Saturday's edition of this newspaper. Meunier asked Harrop to explain "why as of Apr. 30, 1952, there is \$79,000 less of surplus than on Apr. 30, 1948." Harrop said "I proved that the Republicans didn't save a cent while they were in office and now Meunier is changing his attack in a clever political move. The taxpayers appropriated that \$79,000 for capital improvements and it was used for that purpose exclusively."

Silva Gets Ovation

Manuel Silva, clerk of the highway department, received a loud ovation when he took to the platform to defend himself against Meunier's statement of Saturday that his job was not necessary because (Continued on page 7, col. 1)

Democrats Confident of Victory

(Continued from page 1)

fore or now He said: "Meunier picked on me, a little fellow, because when he tries it on DeCiantis, Kraus, McKanna or Dion Archambault, they shove his words right back down his throat." Continuing, he said, "My job is necessary. For the last three weeks, for example, the highway commissioner has been so busy with the drainage jobs in Arctic Hill and Centreville, that he has been in the office only at quitting time. Who then could take the telephone calls about a hole in the road or a tree limb that had fallen down? Someone called about a plank missing in the bridge at Phenix which could have caused an accident which would have cost the town much more than my salary. There will always be a clerk in the highway department. The job is necessary."

Wants Proof

DeCiantis said Lefebvre wants proof that Cuthbert Dubois of Lear Street, West Warwick, bid \$1000 lower than the Woonsocket plumbing and heating company that got the \$3500 job at Highland Street School. "Well, here it is. I met McKanna and we took a ride to see Dubois. I told him that Lefebvre said you didn't give him a bid. He came down from his roof which he was shingling and wrote the following statement: "Nov. 1, 1952. I, Cuthbert Dubois, under oath dispose and say that I put in a bid for the work at Highland Street School in Phenix to the school committee, comprising M. Irene Guertin, Andrew Faulds and Vincent Lukowicz and the bid was approximately \$1000 less than the job was done for. I was ready to do the job, but the election came along. The Republican school committee was elected and I never heard any more until I inquired and found the job had been done." The statement was signed by McKanna, a notary public. DeCiantis said, "I hope that satisfied Lefebvre, here is the evidence."

Move Water Rates

DeCiantis said that "if you vote the Republican ticket they will attempt to move the water rates. I advise them don't do it. Let me advise the Republicans I will continue to fight for the water rates to keep them where they are, regardless who is elected."

Mrs. Yvonne Guiot, president of the West Warwick Women's Democratic Club, was in charge of the rally and she introduced Harry McKanna who, in reviewing the record of his administration, said that the sewer plant at Natick has been repaired properly

ly to take care of the needs for the next 25 years. Rep. Gerard DiFiore of the first district, who called on the parents to tell their children about the "dark days under the Republicans"; Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, Francis J. Fazzano, Herve Niquette, Thomas Mello and Antonio Paul, candidates to the town council; Mrs. Susan Lamb, town clerk; Senator Archambault, Rep. Ulysses LaRoche of the second district; Hermenigilde Nadeau, Richard Hughes and Rudolph Nardella, tax assessors; Fred Richard, chairman of the Democratic Town Committee; Joseph Lawrence, director of public aid; Henry Petrarca, highway commissioner; Lorenzo Bergeron, school committeeman; Frank Boisvert, town sergeant.

During the afternoon, a rally was held at the Roma Social Club, Riverpoint, sponsored by that club. Rudolph Nardella was

in charge. A rally will be held tonight at the 400 Club, Natick.

PROV. JOURNAL 11/2/52

Arrests by Wardens as Agents Of R.I. Health Dept. Challenged

Attorney for Shellfishing Charge Defendant Asserts Health Director Can't Delegate Blanket Authority

The right of state game wardens to make arrests for shellfishing in polluted waters as agents of the state department of health was challenged yesterday in Fourth District Court, East Greenwich, by Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick attorney.

Representing Henry H. Graham, 21, of 187 Main Street, East Greenwich, on trial for allegedly taking shellfish from Greenwich Cove, DeCiantis maintained before Judge James W. Leighton that the health director cannot delegate blanket authority to game wardens.

Four wardens testified they had been empowered by the health director to serve as agents. They introduced in evidence a form which purported to show that authority. They said the official form was filed with the secretary of state.

Sees Legal Approval Lacking

DeCiantis argued that the director of health did not specifically mention that the wardens were acting as his "agents," but delegated complete authority, and that such delegation could only be made with legislative approval.

DeCiantis contended that Albert Judge Jr., the warden who preferred the charge, had nothing to show that he was an agent and had not been sworn in as such by the health director.

It was not until after both the state and DeCiantis had concluded arguments that DeCiantis entered a special plea motion, contesting the delegation of authority. He was given one week to file the plea and told to be ready for a hearing in two weeks. Oliva Lamber was special counsel for the attorney general's office.

Released in \$500 Bail

The wardens testified they had watched Graham bullraking in the cove, about 100 feet north of the town's sewer beds, and that when he was apprehended, eight bushels of quahaugs were found in his boat.

Graham pleaded innocent to the charge last month and is out on \$500 bail.

Two weeks ago in Fifth District Court, Bristol, charges were dismissed against four men accused of shellfishing in polluted waters of Bristol Harbor after defense counsel successfully maintained that warrants signed by a game warden, whose division is in the state department of agriculture, should have been signed by the state health director or his agent.

PROV. JOURNAL 11/2/52

Democrats Hold W. Warwick Rally

100 Attend Session At Which Local Candidates Speak

More than 100 persons last night attended a West Warwick Democratic rally in Turcotte's Hall, Arctic, at which only local candidates and officials spoke. A final rally is scheduled tonight in Club 400, Natick.

Speakers last night were Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis; Harry F. McKanna Jr., town council president; Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere; Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop; Reps. Gerard DiFiore and Thaddeus M. Kraus; Manuel Silva, highway department chief clerk; Francis Fazzano, councilman candidate; Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb, Sen. Dion Archambault and former town solicitor Charles J. Bourgault.

Others introduced by Mrs. Yvonne Guiot, president of the West Warwick Democratic women's club, who was mistress of ceremonies, were school committeeman Lorenzo Bergeron, Town Sergeant Frank D. Boisvert, Councilman Herve Niquette, Thomas F. Mello, Antonio Paul, Tax Assessor Hermenigilde Nadeau, highway commissioner Henry P. Petrarca, Director of Public Welfare Joseph Laurence and Sheriff Alfred Richard.

The rally is a representative of the volunteers for Stevenson urge financial support for the presidential aspirant's campaign.

Mixup Delays Opening of W. Warwick Polls

About 100 West Warwick voters were turned away from the polls in two town districts this morning because voting machines went to the wrong places.

It was nearly 9 a.m.—two hours after polls opened—before truckers hired by the State Board of Elections straightened out the mixup.

The difficulty arose when the Affleck Trucking Company delivered three voting machines destined for

the town hall garage on Pike Street to the Holy Ghost Hall in the Lippitt section. Five machines for Holy Ghost Hall went instead to the town hall garage.

The machines had to be swapped because candidates for a few town offices are different in the two districts.

Because voting was held up in the two districts for nearly two hours, Albert J. Lamarre, state

elections board chairman, at first advised Town Clerk Susan B. Lamb that the two polling places should remain open longer tonight. Consequently Mrs. Lamb announced they would be open until 9:30 p.m., while other town polling places would close at the usual 8 o'clock hour.

However, an opinion from the state attorney general after brought the closing back to the regular

Polling hours are fixed by law. When Lamarre was asked whether he had authority to recommend extension of the voting time in the two districts, he said:

"We feel that under the circumstances, no voter should be penalized by the error. In fairness to those discommoded, this morning, we feel the polling places should remain open for as long as voting was delayed this morning."

Consulted Attorney General

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis said that he and Mortimer W. Newton, chairman of the West Warwick canvassing authority, took the matter up with Attorney General Powers, "and it was the attorney general's opinion, and ours also, that the polls must be closed in accordance with the statute, which in West Warwick is at 8 p.m.

"The law has been complied with, as the polls were open and it is no different than a case where the machines might have broken down. The law specifies that if a machine can't be fixed within 30 minutes, another machine shall be brought in, but the count on the first machine shall be counted at the close.

"If the legislature had wanted to give the authority to the canvassing authority to extend the voting hours, it would have said so in the law. (The election law stipulates opening and closing hours for the various communities in the state. The stipulation for West Warwick is that the polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.)

"We could envision a situation where all voting machines in a polling place might be broken down, and including the 30-minute waiting period before replacement, a great deal of time would be lost. That in my opinion is not a deprivation of the right to vote."

DeCiantis pointed out that doors of both polling places were open in accordance with law and that they will remain open until 8 p.m., also as provided by law, providing persons who were delayed in voting this morning an opportunity to vote later.

PROV. JOURNAL
**Sailor Sentenced
To Term in Jail**
11/4/52

Warren G. Clayton, 31, a Quonset sailor from Daisy, Tenn., yesterday was adjudged guilty of being a disorderly person after a trial in Fourth District Court, East Greenwich, and was sentenced to seven months in the Providence County Jail by Judge James W. Leighton.

Clayton was charged by East Greenwich police with indecently touching a minor child in an East Greenwich theater. The defendant pleaded innocent to the charge at a Sept. 15 arraignment. An appeal was filed yesterday and bail fixed at \$800.

Two charges of violating Warwick building codes were dismissed against Donald A. Marques, 52, of 74 Pequot Avenue, Oakland Beach, on the recommendation of City Solicitor Hailes L. Palmer. He was charged with covering up some plumbing before an examination by the building inspector and with constructing a foundation before the contemplated work was inspected.

Palmer explained that since the warrants had been filed the sanitary plumbing had been inspected and found to conform with regulations. At an arraignment earlier this month, Marques had pleaded innocent to both charges.

Frederick C. Smith, 46, a Quonset sailor from Cape Cod, Mass., pleaded guilty of speeding and was assessed costs only.

P.V. TIMES
11/5/52
**DEMOCRATS NAME
SPORTS COMMITTEE**

West Warwick Democratic Town Committee last night named a nine-member sports committee, headed by Francis Lachapelle, well-known baseball umpire, to make recommendations for improvements to the town's athletic field and to draw up a full-year program of athletics for approval of taxpayers at the next financial town meeting, Mar. 17, 1953.

Lachapelle, by being named chairman of the committee, is now known as the town committee's choice of full-time recreation director, which office was a plank in their election platform.

Lachapelle's and the committee appointments will be submitted to the town council for their approval. The town committee said that the only salary to be paid is to the committee chairman if taxpayers appropriate the necessary funds for recreation at the next town meeting.

Other members of the sports committee recommended follow: John McCarthy, Anthony Giorgio, Frank Maznicki, Armand Guertin, John J. Moreau, Albert DiMartino, Arthur Theroux and Eddie Furtado.

In other business, the Democratic Town Committee announced they would make no recommendation to the town council, but that body could determine themselves who would take the

office as president of the town council.

Michael DeCiantis was recommended to be reappointed town solicitor.

To celebrate their party winning the election, plans were formulated to hold a victory banquet next January at the Club 400.



FRANCIS LACHAPELLE

8.

Budget Paring Evidence Seen

PROV. JOURNAL 11/16/52

W. Warwick Democrats Urge Adoption of Two Specific Items

Evidence that a pre-election platform plank of West Warwick Democrats that promised improvement of the town's recreation facilities—specifically, the athletic field—was being whittled swiftly into practical shape appeared yesterday in the endorsement of two particular items by the party committee.

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor and committee member, reported that the Democratic "inner council" will ask the town council to:

1. Approve the purchase for an estimated \$12,000 of a bulldozer to bury odorous garbage in the dump adjacent to the athletic field, and hire two men to do the job.

2. Set up a sports study committee; to be headed by Francis LaChapelle, which will report to the council by Dec. 31 on the condition of town athletic facilities and make recommendations to be presented at the 1953 financial meeting for athletic improvements.

DeCiantis said that the endorsement for a nine-man sports study committee will be placed before the council Tuesday night for consideration.

He said that purchase of the bulldozer would be part of the "sanitation program that will be instituted" to eliminate odors emanating from the dump that have caused considerable hardship to spectators at athletic events next door on the town field.

A study made about a year ago by federal and state health agencies demonstrated that an efficient method of abolishing the odors was to bury the garbage between layers of "clean" dirt.

Agents from the United States Public Health Service and the State Health Department exhibited the method then to members of the West Warwick planning board. A requisite for getting the sanitary land fill program underway was purchase or procurement of a bulldozer.

DeCiantis yesterday vowed that the equipment would be obtained and the "job will be done." The town solicitor, who proved himself to be a powerful campaigner in the recent electioneering, also speaks with a powerful voice in party affairs, so indications are that the course he advises will be followed.

The new laborers—one to operate the "dozer" and the other to work around the disposal pit—would be placed under the supervision of the highway commissioner, according to DeCiantis. He said the commissioner, Henry Petrarca, has agreed to take on the sanitation program.

Backing of LaChapelle as chairman of the sports committee was construed to give him a head start among candidates for the position of town recreation director that will probably be established after the town financial meeting in March.

DeCiantis said the townspeople could "rest assured that a director of recreation with full power to effect a program for all of the people will be appointed."

Presently, however, the town committee would recommend to the council that the study group "immediately" conduct an inspection of the athletic field and athletic facilities in the town in general.

The report would be requested before Dec. 31 so that any expenses required by advised programs could be included in the proposed budget.

DeCiantis described the two-pronged course adopted by the town committee as a means of "bringing West Warwick athletic facilities up to par for the children and all the people." He cited the proposals as proof that the Democrats were keeping their campaign promises.

Also back to serve on the sports study committee with LaChapelle were John McCarthy, Anthony Giorgio, Frank "Monk" Maznicki, Armand Guertin, John J. Moreau, Albert DiMartino, Arthur Theroux and Edward Furtado.

All with the exception of LaChapelle, are young men in their twenties. All, without exception are outstanding figures in the athletic life of West Warwick.

Fazzano Heads Council In West Warwick

PROV. JOURNAL 11/19/52

Francis J. Fazzano of Natick, an assistant attorney general, last night was elected president of the all-Democratic West Warwick Town Council at its inaugural and immediately served notice the administration will tolerate no illegal gambling activities in the town.

Besides pledging a constructive administration, Fazzano asserted strongly in his inaugural address before about 50 persons in the town hall, that his gambling warning is an "assurance to the good, honest citizens" and a warning to "any person or persons who have any ideas of engaging in illegal activities."

The council, which includes three hold-overs, Hervey Niquette, Antonio Paul and Thomas F. Mello,

besides Fazzano and Chester Kulasewski, both newcomers to politics, reappointed all town officers, after being administered the oath of office by Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb.

Harry F. McKanna Jr., retiring council president, who did not seek re-election but remains as sewer commission counsel, opened the meeting. Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis then swore in Mrs. Lamb. With Niquette, who ran as No. 1 councilman and could have been president if he desired, serving as temporary chairman, Fazzano was elected unanimously.

Foresees Much Work

Fazzano reiterated his campaign assertion that "my conception of public office is that the public is the master and the officer is the servant."

He said the council faces a lot of work in the next two years and promised it will make every effort to carry out all promises. If a thing is best for all people of the town and the town can afford it, it will be carried out as rapidly and efficiently as possible, he declared.

Then Fazzano, who, as an assistant attorney general in the state since 1945 has specialized in criminal prosecutions, gave his warning on gambling.

"My experience has been that this is a clean town and has been for some time," he said. It is going to remain that way. Our town solicitor, our police department and this council are pledged to a policy which will permit no compromise, however slight, with such activities.

"I know that I speak for all of my colleagues when I say that we shall so conduct the government of this town that two years from now all persons, regardless of political affiliation, will agree that the town has been run efficiently, economically and honestly.

"As to efficiency and economy, we can only say that we will do our best and hope that best will result in at least a satisfactory result. As to honesty, there is no such thing as a 'little honesty.' I pledge you complete honesty in my every act as a public officer of this town."

Asks Co-operation

He asked co-operation from all citizens, saying that "without it, all our efforts will be in vain."

Appointive officers re-named for two years, most of whom were sworn in by Mrs. Lamb, are: DeCiantis, town solicitor; Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferrriere, Mrs. Margaret E. Conlon, deputy town clerk; Police Chief Groleau, Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca, Dr. John A. Mack, health officer; Dr. Daniel Harrop, town physician; Adelard Boucher, town hall custodian; Stanislaus Maznicki, superintendent of lights.

Also, Alexander Lautier, sealer of weights and measures; Thomas P. Cawley, inspector of kerosene; Hector L. Poulin, Clifford N. Adams, Robert E. Meany, Amedee Chevalier, weighers of cotton; Gordon P. Andrew, M. Margaret Boyle and Peter J. Gosarie, weighers of coal and other merchandise; Willie J. Regnaiere, fence viewer; James King, tree warden; Joseph L. St. Jean, forest fire warden; John Zaboriski, auditor; Henry J. Clarke, S. Anthony Tessitore, Barnabe Harpin and John Fay, auctioneers; and Regnaiere, building and plumbing inspector.

As one of its first acts, the council moved to improve town recreation facilities by naming a nine-member committee to study the town athletic field, a source of complaint because of its location next to the town dump, weigh its future use and adaptability and report back by Dec. 31.

The special committee includes Frank LaChapelle, chairman; John McCarthy, Anthony Giorgio, Frank Maznicki, Armand Guertin, John J. Moreau, Albert DiMartino, Arthur Theroux and Eddie Furtado.

Fazzano Heads W. Warwick Council

Warns Town Won't Permit Any Gambling

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Other Pawtuxet Valley And Warwick News On Page 75

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Asks Co-operation

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NEW TOWN COUNCIL for West Warwick is sworn into office by Town Clerk Mrs. Susan V. Lamb. Left to right are Hervey Niquette,

Chester Kulasewski, Antonio Paul, Thomas F. Mello and Francis J. Fazzano, council president. Niquette, Paul, Mello were re-elected.

—State Staff Photo

Appointive officers re-named for two years, most of whom were sworn in by Mrs. Lamb, are: DeCiantis, town solicitor; Probate Judge Eugene J. Laferriere, Mrs. Margaret E. Conlon, deputy town clerk; Police Chief Groleau, Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca, Dr. John A. Mack, health officer; Dr. Daniel Harrop, town physician; Adelard Boucher, town hall custodian; Stanislaus Maznicki, superintendent of lights.

Also, Alexander Lautieri, sealer of weights and measures; Thomas P. Cawley, inspector of kerosene; Hector L. Poulin, Clifford N. Adams, Robert E. Meaney, Amedee Chevalier, weighers of cotton; Gordon P. Andrew, M. Margaret Boyle and Peter J. Gosarie, weighers of coal and other merchandise; Willie J. Regnaiere, fence viewer; James King, tree warden; Joseph L. St. Jean, forest fire warden; John Zaborski, auditor; Henry J. Clarke, S. Anthony Tessitore, Barnabe Harpin and John Fay, auctioneers; and Regnaiere, building and plumbing inspector.

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Complaint Made

Octave Gay of River Street, Westcott, appeared before the council to protest property damage allegedly caused by workmen of the R. Zoppo Co., Inc., contractors on the first two phases of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension project. He said workers drove onto lawns and he wanted the council to know it before the contractors are paid in full. He also cited an 18-foot deep hole which he said has not been properly marked with warning lights at all times.

McKanna said the contractors have on deposit in the town treasurer's office insurance protection against such damage up to \$100,000. He asked Mrs. Lamb, clerk of the sewer commission, which is the town council, to make note of Gay's claim of damage "so we can take care of it before the contract is discharged." He said he would notify contractors of the hole hazard.

When Fazzano asked if it is not a fact that contractors must repair all damage, McKanna said they must resurface all highways, putting them in the condition in which they found them, and make good all property damage. He said the town each month holds out 15 per cent of the money due contractors and they will not receive the full amount until the job is completed and damages taken care of.

Rep. Gerard DiFlore protested that a barricade and warning lights on the upper end of Wakefield Street, now being sewered, are "very poor. If the one light goes out and a motorist crashes through the weak barricade, it could be dangerous." McKanna said he would draw that to the Zoppo firm's attention.

In other business, the council: Named Angelo Cinquegrana a police constable with power to serve civil process and named these regular constables: Anthony Bruno, Heliodore Picard, Frank Slota, Vincent A. Muschiano, Robert R. Beaudin and William H. Moorehead. Granted victualling licenses to Fred J. Marr and son, East Greenwich, for the Piazza King Restaurant, 57 Cowesett Avenue, and to Irene Roch, Irene's Lunch, 1289 Main Street.

Voted to meet regularly on the second Tuesday at 8 p.m. and at special meetings called by vote of the council or by the council president, with notice to other members to be given by the town clerk.

Granted Warwick Club Ginger Ale Co., permission to erect a Christmas display featuring miniature church and novel buildings on the lot next to the police station. Instructed George Lancelotta, 13 Bridge Street, to file a written complaint on his objection to raising of chickens at the Crompton Hatchery in the former Potter Grain Mill, Bridge Street. Lancelotta said he will present a petition charging the business is a health menace and a nuisance that causes devaluation of neighbors' property.

Granted Narragansett Electric Co. permission to install a manhole and underground steel pipes on Washington Street.

FAZZANO NAMED PRESIDENT OF WEST WARWICK COUNCIL

P.F. TIMES 11/19/52
Former Assistant Attorney General Serves Notice He Will Not Tolerate Gambling in Town.—Councilmen Sworn In.

Assistant Attorney General Francis J. Fazzano of Brookfield Hills, Natick, last night was named president of West Warwick Town Council.

His first step after assuming office was the serving of a notice he will not tolerate any gambling while serving in public office, an office which, he said in his conception, was "the public is the master and the officer is the servant."

In addition to his inaugural address, which follows in full Fazzano and the other town councilmen who were administered the oath of their office considered petitions and regular business as follows:

In answer to Octave Gay of 56

Iver Avenue, Westcott, who complained that the Zoppo Construction Co. of Norwood, Mass., sewer installation contractors, had caused damage to the lawn of his property, retiring council president Harry F. McKanna, serving as the sewer commission's legal advisor said that the contractors have on deposit in the town treasurer's office insurance of \$100,000 to cover property damage of citizens of the town.

Town Clerk Makes Record

At McKanna's suggestion, Town Clerk Mrs. Susan V. Lamb, made record of Gay's complaints of property damage and also Gay's petition to have an 18-foot deep hole properly barricaded and illuminated.

McKanna said that the sewer commission which is the town council, is withholding 15 per cent of monthly payments to the contractor so that property damage claims can be paid before the contractor is discharged of his duties.

McKanna also promised Rep. Gerard DiFiore that he will contact the contractor today to have "the inadequate barricade" of construction work at the upper end of Wakefield Street repaired. DiFiore said that the present barricade is inadequate and the illumination at night of only one torch is improper and it has cre-

(Continued on page 2, col. 4)

Fazzano Named President of West Warwick Council

(Continued from page 1)

ated a dangerous situation.

Protest to Chickens

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis requested George F. Lancellotta of 13 Bridge Street, Riverpoint, to file a formal complaint against the Crompton Hatchery owned by John Federowicz that that firm was raising chickens on its property, the former Potter Grain Co., at Bridge Street. Lancellotta said that the raising of chickens at that site was a "menace to health and was a nuisance." He said that the company raised chickens at that site a year ago and when a petition was raised, McKanna, then council president, said that he would put a stop to it. "They are there now," he added. The town council said that they will investigate the complaint.

The council voted to hold future meetings the second Tuesday of each month as has been done in the past.

Christmas Display

Warwick Club Ginger Ale Co. was granted permission to install a Christmas display centering around a Christmas village on town property next to the police station. All expenses will be paid by the bottling company.

Victualling house licenses were granted to Frederick J. Morrison of 57 Cowesett Avenue, doing business as "The Pizza King" and to Irene Roch of 1289 Main Street, doing business as "Irene's Lunch."

Appointed police constables were Anthony Bruno of 34 East Main Street, Heliodore Picard, 765 Wakefield Street, Frank Sloat, 31 West Street, Vincent A. Muschiano, 1015 Main Street, William H. Moorehead, East Greenwich Avenue, and Robert R. Beaudoin, 11 Lavoie Street. Appointed a police constable with power to serve civil process was Angelo P. Cinquegranna of 5 Angelo Court.

Fazzano's address, in full, follows:

Fazzano's Address

"At the outset, may I at this time express my sincere appreciation to the people of this town for the confidence they have shown in me by electing me to this council, and also to the members of this council for their confidence in selecting me to serve as their president for the next two years. I know that the time for speech-making is past and that from now on actions must and will speak louder than words, but I ask your indulgence for a few moments.

"I have frequently explained

10.
my conception of public office. It is quite simple. The public is the master and the officer is the servant. I shall be guided by that feeling during the next two years. We have much to do during our term of office. We made certain promises during the campaign and we shall make every effort to carry out every one of those promises. However, one test shall be applied to each and every contemplated action. Is it the best thing for all of the people of this town? If it is and if the town can afford it, it will be done efficiently, honestly and as promptly as circumstances will permit. Now there is one particular matter which, though unpleasant, should be mentioned. And in what I have to say on this subject I have a twofold purpose: To the good honest citizens of this town, it is an assurance to any person or persons who have any ideas of engaging in illegal activities, it is a warning. It is my honest opinion, based on my observations as a resident of the town and on my experience as an assistant attorney general, that this town has been and is free of gambling and other illegal activities. It is going to remain that way. Our town solicitor, our police department and this council are pledged to a policy which will permit no compromise, however slight, with such activities.

"I know that I speak for all of my colleagues when I say that we shall so conduct the government of this town that two years from now all persons, regardless of political affiliation, will agree that the town has been run efficiently, economically and honestly. As to efficiency and economy, we can only say that we will do our best and hope that our best will result in at least a satisfactory result. As to honesty, there is no such thing as a 'little dishonesty.' I pledge you complete honesty in my every act as a public officer of this town.

"Finally, on behalf of the entire town government, I ask for the co-operation of all the citizens of this town, for without that co-

operation, all of our efforts will be in vain. I am certain that with that co-operation, West Warwick will be an even finer town in which to live."

West Warwick Council Appoints Town Officers

West Warwick Town Council last night appointed the following town officers: Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor; Eugene J. Laferriere, probate judge; Mrs. Margaret E. Conlon, deputy town clerk; Arthur Groleau, chief of police; Henry Petrarca, highway commissioner; Dr. John A. Mack, health officer; Dr. Daniel Harrop, town physician; Adelard Boucher, custodian of the town hall; Stanislaus Maznicki, superintendent of lights; Alexander Lautieri, sealer of weights and measures. Also, Thomas P. Cawley, in-

spector of kerosene; Hector L. Poulin, Clifford N. Adams, Robert E. Meaney and Amedee Chevalier, weighers of cotton; Gordon P. Andrew, M. Margaret Boyle and Peter J. Gosarie, weighers of coal and other merchandise; Willie J. Regnaire, fence viewer and building and plumbing inspector; James King, tree warden; Joseph L. St. Jean, forest fire warden; John Zaborski, town auditor; Henry J. Clarke, S. Anthony Tessitore, Barnabe Harpin and John Fay, auctioneers.

TRAFFIC RELIEF SEEN

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis told businessmen at a special West Warwick Town Council meeting last night that Arctic traffic problems will be alleviated somewhat soon by creation of a rear exit from the big First National Store parking lot, Main Street, which he owns. *EVENING BULLETIN 11/25/52*

DeCiantis said he had acquired the McMahon property in the rear of the lot, that one house there has been moved and another will be torn down to make an exit on Weaver Street, in addition to the present one on Main Street. First National Stores will lease the land to make the second exit, he said.

W. Warwick Council Votes Itself Out of Pay

The West Warwick town council, at a special meeting as a sewer commission, last night voted to rescind its vote of July 9 to pay members \$10 for each meeting as a sewer commission during the current \$1,200,000 sewer extension job.

A Journal-Bulletin story Saturday pointed out that a 1941 amendment to the original sewer act specified that councilmen shall receive no salaries as sewer commissioners other than their salaries as councilmen.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who was not in that office at the time of the July vote, said there apparently was an error in interpretation. He said the former sewer commission was entitled to

be paid, but the 1941 amendment, abolishing that commission and making the council a sewer commission, stipulated no extra pay.

"It must have escaped their attention and was an honest mistake," DeCiantis said.

Last night's resolution said councilmen who have received pay for meetings as a sewer commission will refund it to the town treasurer.

Councilmen Hervey Niquette, Thomas F. Mello and Antonio Paul each will refund \$40 paid for attendance at four meetings. Harry F. McKanna Jr., who was council president until this month, said he returned his \$40 payment as soon as he received it because he did not feel he should accept remuneration both as a commissioner and as legal counsel to the commission.



Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis drafts a resolution supporting the Pawtuxet Valley Santa Claus parade at a special meeting last night of the West Warwick Town Council. Looking on at left is Chamber of Commerce President Charles Congdon, with Council President Francis J. Fazzano at right. Standing are Leonard Hennessey, treasurer of Centerville National Bank, left, and Robert M. Smith, president of West Warwick Lions Club. The Santa Claus parade begins at 1 p. m. Friday from Coventry airport and will swing into West Warwick to Columbus Square, Arctic.

P.V. Times 11/25/52

—Times Photo



PARADE WELCOMING SANTA to West Warwick on Friday receives stamp of approval from Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, shown signing a resolution. Seated with DeCiantis are Charles C. Congdon (left), president of the Pawtuxet Valley

Chamber of Commerce, and Francis J. Fazzano, council president. In back (l-r): James Allison, chairman of the celebration to be held at 1 p.m., and Robert Smith, president of the West Warwick Lions Club.

—State Staff Photo

Governor Plans To Lead Valley's Parade for Santa

Governor Roberts will lead the Pawtuxet Valley Santa Claus parade in Coventry and West Warwick Friday afternoon, it was revealed last night as the West Warwick Town Council held a special meeting to endorse the venture as a worthwhile community project.

Councilmen accepted an invitation from a parade committee, headed by James Allison, to review the parade from the steps of West Warwick post office with the governor after arrival of the parade from Coventry.

In its endorsement, the council congratulated parade sponsors "for outstanding civic interest in promoting the spirit of good will among the people of our town."

Appearing for the committee with Allison were Leonard Hennessey, Arctic banker; Charles C. Congdon, Pawtuxet Valley Chamber of Commerce president; Joseph Mattias, Ted Petrin, and Robert Smith, West Warwick Lions Club president.

Santa will land by plane at 1 p.m. at Coventry Air Park, after circling the valley, and travel in a West Warwick fire truck to Washington, where he will be joined by a parade of five bands, eight floats, ponies, horses and comic characters. After being greeted by Coventry officials, the parade will travel along Washington Street to Arctic, ending at Columbus Square.

The council named Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis to represent it on the arrangements committee. Francis J. Fazzano, council president, offered the full co-operation of the town.

In case of rain the parade will be held on Saturday, Allison said. Timetable for the parade follows:

1 p.m., Santa lands at Coventry Air Park, Reservoir Road, off Route 3; 1:15 p.m., Santa joins parade from Paine Field, Washington, at South Main and Main Streets, Washington, and parade proceeds to receive greetings from the Coventry Town Council; 2 p.m., parade continues along Main Street, Washington, and Washington Street, and Main Street, arriving about 2:30 p.m. at West Warwick Post Office, Arctic, where Santa will be welcomed by the West Warwick Town Council and the governor will speak before parade continues to Columbus Square, Arctic, where it will disband.

"It makes me, as a citizen of the town feel good to see the merchants and civic groups getting together and promoting civic spirit," DeCiantis told the parade committee. "If this continues I think our town will progress more than it has. It has progressed, but this spirit has been lacking, we need a few happy days in the course of a year. It makes things more neighborly and promotes a general good feeling among the people."

Fazzano, who is also an assistant attorney general, said he had observed that special community events with an appeal to children have a marked effect in cutting down juvenile delinquency.

After Fazzano had urged the businessmen on the parade committee to bring their problems to the town council for consideration at any time, Allison asked whether the town next year might help the celebration financially. DeCiantis said it would depend on a town meeting appropriation, but that he would be glad to seek it if the businessmen will present a plan.

12.

P.V. Times 11/25/52

Santa Plans Endorsed by Councilmen

West Warwick Town-fathers Support Valley Project

The West Warwick Town Council, at a special meeting last night, heartily endorsed plans currently underway for the Pawtuxet Valley Santa Claus parade scheduled for Friday of this week in both Coventry and West Warwick.

The council voted its moral support to the program and expressed regret at being unable to lend financial aid to the event, after James Allison, manager of Sears, explained aims of the plan which is being backed by Valley businessmen.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis pointed out the town was unable to do anything financially for the committee inasmuch as any sum for such a purpose must be approved by taxpayers in annual town meeting.

DeCiantis said he believed that programs of that sort are good for the town and that there should be more of them as they promote a general good feeling among the people.

Council President Francis J. Fazzano said the council is prepared to lend its aid to any civic project which is for the good of the people and invited anyone to go before the council, whether it be mill owner or storekeeper, and express their ideas.

Allison, accompanied by Charles Congdon, president of the Pawtuxet Valley Chamber of Commerce; Robert M. Smith, president of West Warwick Lions Club; Chief Lionel A. Gareau of West Warwick Fire Department; Leonard Hennessey of Centreville National Bank and Joseph M. Mattias, chairman of the Coventry Recreation Committee, explained that the parade Friday is expected to be one of the biggest civic events held in these parts in recent years.

He said Santa Claus will fly into Coventry Airport, be met there by a town welcoming committee, and then ride into West Warwick for greetings with Governor Roberts at the West Warwick Post Office steps.

The parade will include five bands, cowgirls and cowboys, pony hitches, floats by various business and civic organizations and other delights for the children. In the event of rain Friday, the parade will be held Saturday morning. A soft drink concern will pass out free beverages along the route.

Allison, speaking for the businessmen, paid high tribute to the town governing body for its interest in the past, especially in providing additional parking facilities throughout the business district.

P.V. Times 11/25/52

Sewer Board Members Not to Be Paid

Vote July 9 Granting Them \$10 Each Session Rescinded

West Warwick Town Council sitting as a sewer commission last night voted to rescind its July 9 vote to pay members \$10 per meeting during the present \$1,200,000 sewer construction job.

The action was in compliance with the 1941 sewer act amendment which stipulated that councilmen shall receive no salary as sewer commission members.

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, said that the former sewer commission was entitled to be paid but the 1941 amendment abolished that commission and made the council the sewer commission without pay.

Councilmen Herve Niquette, Antonio Paul and Thomas Mello have been paid \$40 each which they will return. Harry F. McKanna Jr., former council president and present legal counsel to the commission said he returned his \$40 as soon as he received it because he felt he did not feel he should accept remuneration both as a commissioner and as legal council.

Sitting as a town council a license was granted to the Holy Ghost Brotherhood Society to hold a dance Nov. 26.

**Council Votes
Itself Out
Of Sewer Pay**
EVENING BULLETIN 11/25/52
**\$10 for Each Meeting
Found Illegal
For W. Warwick Board**

The West Warwick town council, at a special meeting as a sewer commission, last night voted to rescind its vote of July 9 to pay members \$10 for each meeting as a sewer commission during the current \$1,200,000 sewer extension job.

A Journal-Bulletin story Saturday pointed out that a 1941 amendment to the original sewer act specified that councilmen shall receive no salaries as sewer commissioners other than their salaries as councilmen.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who was not in that office at the time of the July vote, said there apparently was an error in interpretation. He said the former sewer commission was entitled to be paid, but the 1941 amendment, abolishing that commission and making the council a sewer commission, stipulated no extra pay.

"It must have escaped their attention and was an honest mistake," DeCiantis said.

Charles J. Bourgault, who was town solicitor at the time the illegal vote was taken last July to pay councilmen as sewer commissioners, said this morning that his advice on the matter was neither sought nor given at the time.

Last night's resolution said councilmen who have received pay for meetings as a sewer commission will refund it to the town treasurer.

Councilmen Hervey Niquette, Thomas F. Mello and Antonio Paul each will refund \$40 paid for attendance at four meetings. Harry F. McKanna Jr., who was council president until this month, said he returned his \$40 payment as soon as he received it because he did not feel he should accept remuneration both as a commissioner and as legal counsel to the commission.

EVENING BULLETIN 11/26/52
**More Off-Street Parking
Seen Key to Arctic Traffic**

**Providence Expert Myers Confers
With Town Council, Planning Board**

Dwight T. Myers, Providence traffic expert, reporting on progress of his survey of Arctic traffic problems, last night indicated his ultimate recommendation will not include expensive by-pass routes, but will stress obtaining more off-street parking places and making it easy to get into and out of them.

Myers told a joint meeting of the planning board and town council that a traffic count on a Friday night, the only night when traffic is acute, showed 42 per cent of the cars stayed in the business center less than 15 minutes, indicating they were not there for shopping purposes.

He indicated that he would leave the main stem in the center as it is, except for one change which he did not describe, to handle the 42 per cent of traffic considered through traffic.

The cheapest way to widen the main thoroughfares in the business center would be to ban parking, but he would not recommend it for Arctic because it would not work out as well as in Providence, Myers said.

"I've got a plan that won't cost too much money," Myers said. "I'm not prepared to present it tonight, but I will start writing a report right away."

Myers said the town has done more than most communities to provide free parking lots. But more lots are needed and those now available should be better lighted, he added. Streets such as Bedard Street, where there are several parking lots, should be widened somewhat and restrictions placed on curb parking, he stated.

He said his men had taken traffic counts on two Friday nights between 6:30 and 9 and had found the peak load to be between 8 and 8:30. The plan was to find the amount and the characteristics of traffic, he said. License numbers were also taken.

On one night 2620 cars entered the business center, he said. Of these, 1112, or 42 per cent, stayed less than 15 minutes, either going straight through or cruising in the area. About 10 per cent of the cars in that bracket are "cruisers," he said.

He cited stays of other cars as follows:

354, or 13 per cent, 15-30 minutes; 22 per cent, 30 minutes to an hour; 13 per cent, from an hour to an hour and 20 minutes; eight per cent, 1½ hours to two hours; 1.4 per cent, two to 2½ hours.

In another survey, the men counted turning movements, Myers said. They found more cars coming out of Gardner Avenue into Columbus Square than went up Gardner Avenue from the square, he said. The count was 210 coming out of Gardner Avenue and 84 entering it from the square. He described this as being not surprising because the route up Gardner Avenue leads into a one-way street, is a wiggling route, ill-lighted and over narrow roads.

At Pond and Robert Streets, the through traffic count was 1694 cars, Myers said.

Studying speed and delay, Myers said, it was found a car required about 15 minutes to go through the center. Most delays were caused by cars entering or leaving the First National Store lot on Main Street, he said.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who owns the lot, said he had acquired property in the rear and that houses there are being removed to provide a back exit.

When the lot is opened in the rear, nearby Payan Street would not be able to handle the traffic, declared Albert C. Coutu of the planning board. He clashed with Myers over the traffic expert's system of surveying the trouble and Myers agreed to go over the problem personally with Coutu.

Myers reported that there are 560 car spaces in Arctic parking

lots, including free community lots and one pay lot. There are 333 parking meters on the streets, he said.

Officials were surprised at Myers' rating of lot capacity, saying they thought the parking areas would hold more. The traffic expert explained that he estimated 225 square feet of space per car for good operation, whereas some city lots squeeze cars into much less space.

To Dr. M. Irene Guertin's query whether the problem would be helped by stores remaining open two nights a week, Myers said it would be worth trying.

"You have got an immense trading area, a lot of fine stores and you draw from a surprisingly wide area," he said.

Alexander DiMartino of the planning board remarked, "They're trying to do a week's business in three and one-half hours."

Dr. Guertin declared that all but one or two large stores are ready to open two nights, as they once did. Myers said he didn't think residents would want Saturday night openings and that Thursday night might be considered, in addition to the present Friday shopping night.

Judge Robert E. Quinn, planning board chairman, observed that the two nights a week suggestion had been made to businessmen last year, but that it is up to the businessmen. Councilman Thomas F. Mello and Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca said they thought, inasmuch as Friday is payday in the Valley, banks could help by going back to opening Saturday morning.

P.V. Times 11/26/52
**Pay Boosts
to Petrarca
and Gareau**

**Weekly Wages to Be
\$108 Same As Chief
of Police Here**

Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca and Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau were given salary raises to bring their weekly wage up to that of the police chief, Arthur Groleau, \$108, by the West Warwick Town Council last night.

The salary adjustment represents a 20 per cent pay raise for Petrarca who formerly received a weekly wage of \$90 and about a 10 per cent increase for Gareau who formerly received \$99 per week.

The salary increase was made retroactive to June 16, 1952, the date when the town council raised the pay of the police chief to \$108 per week and the pay of the fire chief to \$99 per week.

Last July, Petrarca, who is also in charge of the garbage and rubbish collection department, and Andrew Gough, sewer commissioner, asked the town council for a 20 per cent pay raise, but their request was not granted. Gough who receives \$90 per week received no pay raise last night.

EVENING BULLETIN 11/26/52
**Pay Hikes Go
To Petrarca,
Chief Gareau**

**West Warwick Council
Brings Both Salaries
Up to Police Chief's**

Pawtucket Valley Office Telephone
35 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

The West Warwick Town Council, at a special meeting last night, voted salary rises to Highway Commissioner Henry J. Petrarca and Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau to bring their pay up to that of Police Chief Groleau at \$108 a week.

The increases, which were made retroactive to June 16, were designed to make salaries of the three major department heads the same, a system which was upset after the annual town meeting last May.

The budget at the town meeting included 10 per cent rises for police and firemen, but the police department hired legal counsel and succeeded in getting taxpayers to amend the budget to give them a 20 per cent increase.

Chief Gareau subsequently received a boost of 10 per cent from \$90 to \$99, the same as other firemen. At that time, Chief Groleau, whose increase was not included in the budget at the town meeting, inasmuch as he is the only non-permanent member of the force, was voted a 20 per cent increase, from \$90 to \$108, by the town council.

The rises upset the pattern of identical pay for the department heads. Subsequently, Petrarca and Andrew B. Gough, superintendent of sewers, asked the same rises and their requests were taken under advisement by the council.

No mention was made of any increase for Gough last night.

P.V. TIMES 11/26/52

2,200 AUTOS CONVERGE ON ARCTIC EACH FRIDAY NIGHT AMID RUSH HOURS

More Off-Street Parking Lots and Better Ways
to Make Exit from Them Advocated
by Traffic Engineer in Report.

The Arctic shopping district receives an impact of 2200 automobiles during the rush period, Friday nights between 6:30 and 9, and the best way to avoid congestion is to:

1. Open up more off-street parking lots;
2. Provide better ways for the cars to get to and from the parking lots.

This report, backed up by statistics compiled by traffic checkers who have been in Arctic now for several weeks was submitted to the West Warwick Planning Commission and Town Council last night by Dwight T. Meyers,

traffic engineer, whom the planning board has hired to make a study of the traffic problems of Arctic.

Meyers said that those two points, development of more off street parking lots and better ways of entering and leaving the parking lots, will definitely be included in his final analysis report.

Meyers, who is directing a similar project in Providence said that the physical capacity of all parking lots, private and public, is 560 and that at least 300 more parking spaces are needed. He said that 336 parking spaces are provided by the traffic meters.

Tremendous Trade Influx

Meyers told the planning board members and town council that they have a "splendid opportunity to develop business in this town. I was surprised at the tremendous trade influx you have here. You have good stores and you draw from a great many areas, some of them far away." He backed up his statement that Arctic draws from many areas, some of them far away by saying that his checkers wrote down the registration plate numbers of the cars.

The height of the traffic on a Friday night is between 8 and 8:30 p.m., Meyers said. He said that about 32 per cent of the peak traffic that time stays about 15 minutes and 10 per cent is cruising traffic or traffic which does not stop in Arctic.

In talking about the principal artery, Main and Washington Streets from Columbus Square to Pond Street, Meyers said, "Leave it alone, it's alright." The only drawback is the First National parking lot and that is, because there is no rear exit, he added.

Rear Exit at Parking Lot

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who own the First National Stores parking lot, said that a rear exit will be provided within three weeks and the cars leaving the lot can depart by way of Weaver Street.

A visitor at the meeting, Dr. Irene M. Guertin, asked Meyers if he thought the traffic problem would be eased if stores opened two nights a week instead of one. Meyers said he believed it might help, but he wouldn't advocate Saturday night openings because he didn't think people went for Saturday night shopping anymore. Robert E. Quinn, chairman of the planning board, said that the two-night a week store opening was a matter entirely up to the merchants and the only stand the board could take was a recommendation.

(Continued on page 3, col. 4)

PROV. JOURNAL 11/26/52

W. Warwick Boosts Pay Of Petrarca, Gareau

The West Warwick Town Council, at a special meeting last night, voted salary rises to Highway Commissioner Henry J. Petrarca and Fire Chief Lionel P. Gareau to bring their pay up to that of Police Chief Groleau at \$108 a week.

The increases, which were made retroactive to June 16, were designed to make salaries of the three major department heads the same, a system which was upset after the annual town meeting last March.

The budget at the town meeting included 10 per cent rises for police and firemen, but the police department hired legal counsel and succeeded in getting taxpayers to amend the budget to give them a 20 per cent increase.

Chief Gareau subsequently received a boost of 10 per cent from \$90 to \$99, the same as other firemen. At that time, Chief Groleau, whose increase was not included in the budget at the town meeting, inasmuch as he is the only non-permanent member of the force, was voted a 20 per cent increase, from \$90 to \$108, by the town council.

The rises upset the pattern of identical pay for the department heads. Subsequently, Petrarca and Andrew B. Gough, superintendent of sewers, asked the same rises and their requests were taken under advisement by the council.

No mention was made of any increase for Gough last night.

EVENING BULLETIN 11/27/52

De Ciantis Hits

Critic of Trip To Orange Bowl

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick today disagreed with a Providence Journal editorial yesterday which was critical of the West Warwick High School's football team's proposed trip to play Miami High School in a post-season Orange Bowl game in Miami, Dec. 12.

"I was surprised to read the editorial in the Providence Journal with respect to the West Warwick football team being invited to play in Miami in a football classic," DeCiantis said.

"I definitely disagree with the opinion of the editorial. If one were to look on sports as narrowly as the editorial intended and reflect on the character of youth, it would be best that athletics in this country be abolished," he said. "However, the editorial is only the opinion of one man who evidently doesn't like athletics. All I can compare him with is the fellow who was a prohibitionist."

Produces Enthusiasm

"This country has many noted colleges and the popularity and success of many colleges has been through football and the enthusiasm it produces among the people of the country. It brings about better education because of eagerness on the part of professors who desire to teach at colleges that are known and successful enough to have the equipment with which the professor may do his best work."

He continued, "If it's bad for West Warwick boys to go to the bowl, it is just as bad for men of this country to go to the Olympic games. We have many men like Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Dizzy Dean who have been idols to children and grownups. Our team has achieved a position in sports that has boosted them to the front, and to subdue their enthusiasm at this time, in my opinion, would do a great deal of harm. We should not start out with the opinion that boys in their teens can be easily misled or dishonest. I have followed the philosophy that all men and boys are honest and possess good character."

Can Be Dishonest Anywhere

"I think the editorial writer, and those who approved the editorial, should stop to think about this— You don't have to go to Miami or the Olympic Games to become dishonest. That can happen in your own backyard."

"While the editorial criticizes my statement with respect to the honor the boys have brought to the community, I wish to reiterate that Coach Maznicki and these boys have brought honor to the Town of West Warwick and the State of Rhode Island. There are only a few isolated cases where boys have been led astray. Let us not condemn the character of these boys."

The editorial said that athletics have a legitimate place in education, but scored turning post-season game into huge mass spectacles. It pointed out that state and national school athletic associations frown upon such post-season contests and asserted that college athletic scandals, involving gamblers, in recent years, have stemmed from athletic over-emphasis.

11/26/52

2,200 Autos Converge on Arctic Each Friday Night Amid Rush Hours

(Continued from page 1)

ommendation.

In another answer to Dr. Guertin, Meyers said he didn't think it would be practical to build another highway to take care of through traffic. The best way is to open up more parking lots and make it easier for the cars to get in and out of those lots and then

let Main Street take care of the through traffic, he added.

Bedard Street

Talking about developing Bedard Street to run through by way of Merrette Street to Carlin's Corner and by way of Gardner Avenue to Columbus Square, Meyers said he believed this plan advanced by Dr. Guertin would be practical. He said that a 60-foot wide highway wasn't necessary.

In reference to angle parking, Meyers said that everyone who has angle parking is trying to get rid of it and it also creates a traffic hazard.

Meyers gave statistics on some of the present parking lot capacities as follows: south side of First National Stores, 73; lot on westerly side of Bedard Street, 90; lots to rear of Providence Union National Bank and Woolworth's, 51; municipal lot on Payan and Curson Streets, 50; at rear of J. B. Archambault's and Thomas Robert & Son, 40; at the rear of the police station, 25; at the lot in front of Arctic school, 50; at the rear of Centreville National Bank, 15; at the rear of Great Scott Market, 50.

Meyers said that with attendants, more cars could be parked

but he didn't think the town could afford it. He also said that it costs from \$2500 to \$4500 per car to build a parking garage.



He's Their Boy! The kids gave old Santa a big hand yesterday in Arctic. Above, he talks to Governor Roberts as, left, Lenny and Judy Lague and Karl Swanson show their joy.

—Staff Photos by Joseph W. "Archie" Arseneault

PROV. JOURNAL 11/28/52

20,000 in W. Warwick, Coventry Greet St. Nick

An estimated 20,000 persons, believed to be the largest crowd ever to see a parade in the Pawtuxet Valley, yesterday turned out for the P.V. Santa Claus parade in Coventry and West Warwick.

Santa's most avid fans, small-fry out of school on vacation, turned out en masse along with older believers in old Saint Nick, as the white-bearded gentleman landed by plane at Coventry Air Park and traveled in a procession that included Governor Roberts, a half-dozen bands, floats, clowns, cowboys 'n everything.

The celebration was a civic venture sponsored by Lions Clubs and chambers of commerce of both towns, businessmen and individuals, with the blessing of town fathers in both communities.

After landing from the North Pole (that is, Hillsgrove, but for the sake of the legend), Santa was whisked in a big red West Warwick fire truck to Coventry town house for official greetings. Taking part were the governor, Albert Cady Jr., town council president; members of town council, Sen.-elect Horace L. Green and other town officials, as well as chamber and Lions' heads.

With Santa "Ho-Ho-ing," bands blaring, horses and ponies stomping and floats attracting attention—especially one of a life-size manger scene with real-life characters, elaborately costumed, replete with real sheep and other livestock—Santa's Mardi Gras-type retinue marched triumphantly through three miles of packed streets to Arctic.

By the time the parade reached Arctic (police estimated the crowd in that center alone at more than 10,000), Santa's clowns and other characters with mock dog and rabbit heads and zosh knows what all had run out of lollipops and bubble gum they handed out along the way.

Almost swept off his feet by little admirers, Santa managed somehow to get up on the West Warwick Post Office steps to be greeted again by the governor, Francis J. Fazzano, town council president; Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and other officials.

West Warwick Lions entered a float with gift-stuffed sleigh and reindeer. The manger scene was the P. V. Chamber of Commerce's entry. Other floats were entered by the Coventry Lions, Coventry Chamber of Commerce, Lord's Jewelry Co., Coventry Youth Canteen and Capwell Engineering Co.

Bands in line included the West

Warwick and Coventry High School bands, West Warwick Eagles Junior Drum and Bugle Corps, St. Aloysius Bugle and Drum Corps, Jamestown All-Girl Drum and Bugle and Toro's Band.

A miniature Christmas-time home, with live kiddies inside, attracted attention as it swung up and down on a fork lift truck. It was the Coutu Lumber Co. entry. There was also the Kent County Voiture, 40 & 8, locomotive in Christmas style, the antique car that carried the parade committee, the eight-pony team sponsored by Majestic Hardware Co., and lots of other things that popped little eyes open real wide.

Athletic Field Action Pledged In W. Warwick

EVENING BULLETIN 12/3/52

De Ciantis Tells Study Group Administration Favors Improvements

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick last night promised an organizational meeting of a special citizens' committee named by the town council to study need for improvement at the town athletic field, Riverpoint, that their recommendations will be submitted to the annual town meeting next March for action.

DeCiantis' promise indicated extensive improvements will be made at the field, inasmuch as he is a key figure in drawing up the annual proposed budget for the town meeting.

He said the administration is 100 per cent behind the move for a better athletic field.

Frank LaChapelle, committee chairman, at the meeting in the police station recreation room, named subcommittees to investigate costs of the proposed improvements for town meeting consideration.

The general committee will not concern itself with elimination of smog and odors from fires at the adjoining town dump. DeCiantis said the administration will recommend purchase of a bulldozer and hiring of men to establish a sanitary land fill method of dumping, which will make refuse burning unnecessary.

The subcommittees follow:

Floodlights for baseball and football, Coach Frank Maznicki and LaChapelle; portable stands, John J. McCarthy, high school athletic director, and Edward Furtado; wire fencing to replace wooden fences, Antonio Giorgio and LaChapelle; proposed lavatory installations, Albert DiMartino and Arthur Theroux.

Named to investigate the feasibility of surfacing the theaterium next to the high school for possible use for night basketball games were Maznicki, Armand Guertin, DiMartino and Theroux.

The committee will meet again the first week in January to hear reports on cost estimates.

PROV. JOURNAL 11/29/52

DeCiantis and Boisvert Reply to Editorial

Both Defend Plan to Send West Warwick High Football Team to Miami's Orange Bowl Game

Pawtuxet Valley Office | Telephone
18 Washington Street | VA 1-8200
West Warwick | VA 1-7067

Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick town solicitor, took issue yesterday with a Journal-Bulletin editorial criticizing the West Warwick High School football team's projected trip to Miami for a post-season Orange Bowl game with Miami High School Dec. 12.

And Edgar V. Boisvert, president of the West Warwick Boosters' Club, issued a statement in defense of his group's past activities and its current effort to help underwrite expenses of the trip.

DeCiantis said the editorial, which appeared Thursday, looked on sports "narrowly" and overlooked the possibility that dishonesty "can happen in your own back yard."

Boisvert's Statement

Boisvert said in his statement: "Boys are more important than bowls. The West Warwick Boosters' Club, Inc., which instigated the Miami Bowl bid, would like to defend its action and also the spontaneous approval of West Warwick's citizenry.

"The West Warwick Booster Club was formed with the conviction that student-parent relationship should be encouraged. We have sponsored parents' nights where mother, fathers and students are invited to enjoy a sports program or other activity together. They are then served a buffet lunch, where they have an opportunity to meet and mingle with the students.

"We have sold penants, football pins and sponsored concessions, the proceeds earmarked for the West Warwick Band Fund.

"Dances, supervised by the members of the board of directors, were promoted for the purpose of creating a scholarship to be given any student who meets the qualifications academically. The West Warwick yearbook 'The Chronicle', has also benefited financially from our organization.

Supported by People

"The club has been supported by the people of West Warwick, whose honorary members are assessed \$1 a year for the purpose of helping defray expenses necessarily incurred in such an undertaking.

"We, the West Warwick Booster Club, Inc., are firm in our belief that a student is a better student through participation in any extracurricular activity be it as an athlete, member of the band, school newspaper staff or debating society.

"An employer is always watching that an employe does a little more than just his job. That employe will, in the vast majority of cases, be a success at his chosen profession. The same, to a degree is applicable to a student who learns early in life to shoulder some responsibility.

"The West Warwick Booster Club feels that this wonderful trip to Miami, Fla., is not in bad taste, nor is it overemphasizing the sport of football. These athletes are not recruited from other schools, paid under the table for playing, given gifts, or any of the other evils generally associated with the word 'overemphasis'.

Proceeds for Charity

"The proceeds from this contest, sponsored by the Kiwanis Club of Miami, Fla., is for charity, not for the coffers of a cold-blooded, promotion-minded, money-first interested institution. This is merely an opportunity to travel and see some of the wonders of this great country of ours.

"Whether the trip is for a football team, science class, literary guild, or a debating society, it is for the good of the student. Whether it is to Providence, Hartford, Boston, or Miami, it is broadening. Whether it is financed by the school, chamber of commerce, or the citizenry, it unites in a common cause.

"In closing, let us all remember that a tree grows as the twig is bent. A boy grows to manhood as the home and society so mold him."

DeCiantis said: "I was surprised to read the editorial in The Providence Journal with respect to the West Warwick football team being invited to play in Miami in a football classic."

"I definitely disagree with the opinion of the editorial. If one were to look on sports as narrowly as the editorial intended and reflect on the character of youth, it would be best that athletics in this country be abolished," he said.

"However, the editorial is only the opinion of one man who evidently doesn't like athletics. All I can compare him with is the fellow who was a prohibitionist.

Produces Enthusiasm

"This country has many noted colleges and the popularity and success of many colleges has been through football and the enthusiasm it produces among the people of the country. It brings about better education because of eagerness on the part of professors who desire to teach at colleges that are known and successful enough to have the equipment with which the professor may do his best work."

He continued, "If it's bad for West Warwick boys to go to the bowl, it is just as bad for men of this country to go to the Olympic games. We have many men like Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig and Dizzy Dean who have been idols to children and grownups. Our team has achieved a position in sports that has boosted them to the front, and to subdue their enthusiasm at this time, in my opinion, would do a great deal of harm. We should not start out with the opinion that boys in their teens can be easily misled or dishonest. I have followed the philosophy that all men and boys

are honest and possess good character.

"I think the editorial writer, and those who approved the editorial, should stop to think about this—You don't have to go to Miami or the Olympic Games to become dishonest. That can happen in your own backyard.

"While the editorial criticizes my statement with respect to the honor the boys have brought to the community, I wish to reiterate that Coach Maznicki and these boys have brought honor to the Town of West Warwick and the State of Rhode Island. There are only a few isolated cases where boys have been led astray. Let us not condemn the character of these boys."

The editorial said that athletics have a legitimate place in education, but scored turning post-season games into huge mass spectacles. It said that state and national school athletic associations frown upon such post-season contests and asserted that college athletic scandals, involving gamblers, in recent years, have stemmed from athletic over-emphasis.

W. Warwick GOP

Row Is Reported

PROV. JOURNAL 12/9/52
A strong faction of the West Warwick Republican town committee is questioning the legality of election of representatives on the State Central Committee by the local committee Nov. 10 and will place the issue before Charles H. Eden, GOP state chairman, it was learned last night.

Reliable sources in the party said supporters of Roland E. Meunier and Mrs. Olive L. Knight, who were replaced by Norman E. Gillespie and Gaetano Lombardi at the Nov. 10 meeting, feel that the meeting was not held according to state committee rules.

They reportedly are contending that a state committee ruling that delegates must be elected "between" Nov. 10 and Nov. 25 would not include the initial date of Nov. 10. If the ruling meant that the dates of Nov. 10 and 25 were proper for election of delegates, the ruling would have used the word "inclusive" instead of "between".

PROV. JOURNAL 12/25/52

W. Warwick Youth Accused of Rape

Bernard F. McCormick, 19, of 45 Phenix Avenue, West Warwick, yesterday pleaded innocent of rape of a 17-year-old Coventry girl, and was bound over without bail to the Men's Reformatory for trial Dec. 12 at West Warwick, by Judge James W. Leighton in Fourth District Court, Warwick.

The offense allegedly occurred Monday, according to Capt. Harry Miller of the West Warwick police.

PROF. JOURNAL 12/24/52
**W. Warwick Firm
Low on Sewers**

**Barba Co. Submits Bid
Of \$131,181 for
Third Phase Project**

Pawtuxet Valley Office | Telephone
15 Washington Street | VA 1-8200
West Warwick | VA 1-7087

A West Warwick contracting firm, the Barba Construction Co. of Main Street, last night was low among six bidders at \$138,181.50, when the West Warwick Town Council held a special meeting to open bids on the third phase of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension project.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said the bids would be taken under advisement and a contract award announced later. Harry F. McKanna Jr., legal counsel to the sewer commission, which is the council, said engineers will check figures on the bids and an award may be made at the regular council meeting next Tuesday.

The Barba firm promised to complete the job within 300 calendar days. Its bid was \$28,513 lower than the second lowest bidder, Capaldi Brothers Construction Co., Providence, which bid \$166,695, with 220 calendar days estimated time for completion.

Other bids on the job, which covers parts of Arctic, Riverpoint and Phenix, follow: R. Zoppo Co., Norwood, Mass., \$187,720, with 200 days' time; Fanning & Doorley Construction Co., Providence, \$168,785, with 225 days; Pascella Brothers and John William Co. of Boston (joint bid) \$171,970, with 180 days; Campanella & Cardi Construction Co., Hills Grove, \$187,205, with 150 days for completion.

A. H. Cooper, who attended the meeting with L. M. Ruggieri, as representative of Jenks & Ballou, engineers for the town, revealed the following streets will be sewered under the third phase: Fruit Street, from Woodside Avenue to Sunset Avenue; Peters Lane, from Greene Street to Kinne Street; Kinne Street, from Harris Avenue to Gough Avenue; Harris Avenue, from Greene Street to Kinne Street; Youngs Avenue, from Greene Street to Kinne Street; Gough Avenue, from present sewer 294.14 feet west; Agnes Street from Shippee Avenue to Guertin Street; Curson Street, from McNiff Street to West Street.

Also, Kenmore Street, from Curson Street to John Street, Valley View Drive, from Kenmore Street to Hillcrest Drive; Guertin Street from West Street westerly to dead end; Hillcrest Drive, from Curson Street north to dead end; Phenix Avenue from Aberdeen Street to Scofield Street; Wakefield Street from Elbow Street to Cleveland Street; Sunset Avenue from Fruit Street to Pine Street.

PROF. JOURNAL 12/24/52
**Town's Schools
Are Criticized**

**West Warwick Board
Hears Attack by
Group From PTA Unit**

A request to the West Warwick School Committee for water bubblers in the Providence Street Grammar School last night overflowed into an indictment of the town school buildings for general inadequacy.

Three delegates from the Natick schools' PTA issued the censure, apparently aroused by committee statements that the fountain request would have to await a decision by taxpayers at the financial meeting in March. Sparking the attack on the school buildings was Mrs. Alexander DiMartino, who labelled the buildings as "firetraps."

Previously, the school committee had heard outlined the student insurance plan proposed by the Traveler Insurance Company's Providence representative who promised to forward policy samples to the group for its considerations.

Mrs. DiMartino demanded that the committee "look forward" and plan to erect new schools. She cited a survey as substantiating her charges that the schools are generally outmoded and said that in comparison to the educational plants of other communities, "no one can say that our schools are good."

The Englehardt study, released in May, was generally critical of West Warwick's school buildings.

Defending the West Warwick system, Dr. Masie Quinn, school superintendent, said there was enough room in town schools to rule out "basement, corridor and crowded classrooms. You could have palaces and still get no education."

Dr. Quinn said that in her estimation personnel was the most important factor in schools, with buildings ranking third behind equipment.

Accompanying Mrs. DiMartino were Albert Muschiano, unsuccessful candidate in the Democratic primary earlier this year for a school committee nomination, and Nick Caniglia.

P.V. TIMES 12/24/52
**Gillespie Asking Exit
of Meunier, Lefebvre**

Norman E. Gillespie, leader in West Warwick and state Republican circles, today called for the resignations of Roland E. Meunier and Ernest E. Lefebvre from the West Warwick Republican Party (town committee) "for the good of the party."

Gillespie said this morning that the dispute over the town committee's election of himself and Gaetano Lombardi to the state central committee is "strictly sour grapes by Meunier because he was beaten for that office."

It was confirmed this morning by Lefebvre that notice will be sent to Charles Eden, chairman of the GOP State Central Committee, that the election of Gillespie and Lombardi was illegal because they were named on Nov. 10 and not between Nov. 10 and the 25, and that as a result, Meunier and Mrs. Olive Knight are still the duly representatives of the state committee from the West Warwick Town Committee.

Says Rules Adhered

Gillespie said that the Nov. 10 meeting was held according to the rules of the state central committee "and we have the rules to verify it. Meunier, an attorney, was present and he raised no objections to the meeting being held or to the conduct of the election of representatives to the state central committee for two years."

Lefebvre said this morning that the Nov. 10 election is off. He

backed up his statement by saying that the law, dating back to 1846, stipulates that a date between is exclusive of the dates mentioned and that the naming of delegates between Nov. 10 and Nov. 25 means that the election should have been held after the 10th and before the 25th.

Lefebvre contends that because Gillespie and Lombardi were elected on the 10th and not after the 10th of November, they are not duly representatives of the West Warwick Republican Town Committee and that as a result Meunier and Mrs. Knight are still in office as delegates to the state central committee and are the only ones empowered to represent the West Warwick town committee at the election meeting of the state central committee this Friday night.

In Eden's Hands

Lefebvre said that the issue of who are the legal delegates from West Warwick is in the hands of Chairman Eden, who will have to recognize proper delegates in the roll call of the meeting Friday night.

The former president of the West Warwick Town Council added that if the elections on Friday night are close, it may be called illegal if Meunier and Mrs. Knight are not recognized as the delegates from West Warwick.

Lefebvre said that on the night of Nov. 10, the meeting was duly called by the chairman, Harold C. Knight, but the notice of the meeting did not specify the election to be held. He said that 25 out of 27 committeemen attended the meeting and the delegates were decided after three tie votes had been cast.

Only "Half Truth"

Gillespie said the implication that the voting was close at the West Warwick town committee meeting on Nov. 10, is only the "half truth." He said the first election was between Meunier and myself and I won on the first ballot, 14 to 10. On the second ballot, Lombardi and Mrs. Knight each received a tie vote of 12 to 12, and it took three votes in all to decide it, Gillespie added.

Gillespie said the state central committee rules specified the elections were to be held Nov. 10 to Nov. 25. Meunier waited until after the 25th.

PROV. JOURNAL 12/14/52

R.I. Health Dept. Plugs Loophole In Polluted Waters Fishing Law

Assigns Two Sanitary Inspectors to Work With
Fish and Game Division on Quahaug Patrol

The State Department of Health moved last night to attempt to block any raiding of quahaug beds in polluted waters of Narragansett Bay, after an East Greenwich district court decision confirmed a loophole in past enforcement procedure.

Walter J. Shea, chief of the State Division of Sanitary Engineering, announced that he is assigning two sanitary inspectors to work with wardens of the State Division of Fish and Game in policing the pollution ban.

Judge James W. Leighton ruled yesterday that the state director of health has no authority to delegate his enforcement powers to fish and game wardens, employees of the Department of Agriculture and Conservation, who for years have been enforcing the health department law prohibiting shellfishing in polluted waters.

As a result of his ruling, made after a plea in abatement entered by Michael DeClantis, defense counsel, a case against Henry H. Graham, 21, of 187 Main Street, East Greenwich, was wiped out.

Graham was one of four shellfishermen arrested by wardens Oct. 15 for allegedly taking quahaugs from

polluted Greenwich Cove. The three other fishermen originally pleaded guilty and were sentenced to jail, but subsequently appealed and their cases have been set down for the January session of Kent County Superior Court.

Both state fish and game and health authorities, anticipating a ruling such as Judge Leighton gave, had been concerned over its effects, fearing the law would be openly flouted by fishermen who now work cautiously by night, or operate close enough to the pollution lines in daylight so that a quick dash can put them in safe waters if a patrol boat appears.

Shea said that, since the East Greenwich case came up, he has kept men available to work with the wardens. On two recent unsuccessful raids, one in Greenwich Cove and the other in Bristol Harbor, sanitary inspectors have accompanied the wardens, he said.

The plan is for the sanitary inspectors, who in the past would have been checking bakeries, shellfish plants and other food processors for compliance with health regulations, to gather evidence and

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Plugs Loophole

Continued From Page One

draw the warrants in cases involving shellfishing in polluted water.

This is only an emergency measure, Shea said, which will remain in effect until legislation can be passed by the General Assembly to tighten up the law.

Judge Leighton said that Dr. Edward McLaughlin has the authority to appoint agents but that delegation of his authority to fish and game wardens was invalid.

The warrant issued in the Graham case was signed by Albert Judge Jr., a senior warden of the Department of Fish and Game, as an agent for the Department of Health.

In his argument, DeClantis protested that Dr. McLaughlin was given no authority by the legislature to delegate his authority but has the right to appoint agents and it would have been a simple thing under the law to do so.

Ovilia Lambert, special counsel for the attorney general's department, argued that the director of health was within his rights although he acknowledged that there

was no designation in special certificates filed by the director of health with the secretary of state's office naming the wardens as his "agents."

PROV. JOURNAL 12/14/52

Bitter Fight Rages in West Warwick For Seats on GOP State Committee

Pawtucket Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

A contest for West Warwick's seats on the Republican State Central Committee at its organization meeting tomorrow night was assured last night after a day of warfare and demands for resignations from the Republican town committee.

Roland E. Meunier who with Mrs. Olive L. Knight was replaced on the state committee by Norman E. Gillespie, executive assistant to Charles H. Eden, state chairman, and Gaetano Lombardi on Nov. 10, maintained last night the ouster was illegal and that he and Mrs. Knight still are members for two more years.

He will attend the state meeting fully expecting to be seated as a member, Meunier said.

Cites Court Decisions

Meunier holds that, under state committee rules, the state committee representatives shall be named by local committees "between" Nov. 10 and 25 and that does not include the 10th and 25th, thereby making the action on Nov. 10 illegal.

He cited several court decisions on the meaning of the word "between" which held that, if an act is to be done between two certain days, it must be performed before the latter day and that, in computing the time, both the days named are to be excluded.

If Eden does not agree and seats him and Mrs. Knight, he said, he may take the matter to the State Supreme Court for an interpretation and decision.

This threat was seen as possibly raising an issue over the state committee seats from other towns or city wards, if they were elected on Nov. 10 or 25.

GOP Again Split Wide

The argument yesterday split the town GOP organization wide open again after a seemingly unified front in the recent campaign. There was a bitter primary fight two years ago between supporters of Meunier and Lefebvre as opposed to Gillespie and his West Warwick Republican Club.

Gillespie yesterday called for the resignations of Meunier and Lefebvre from the town committee "for the good of the party," saying Meunier's raising the issue was "sour grapes" because he (Gillespie) beat him 14-10 for the state post on Nov. 10.

"They're trying to wreck the Republican party, and I'm rather fond of the party," Gillespie said. "They're becoming extremely technical to the point of disgust. The issue has never been raised before. Records prove conclusively in many towns and wards that on several occasions they elected on the 10th and 25th. Furthermore, Meunier, himself an attorney, and member of the town committee a great many years, was present and never said a word at the meeting. He participated in the vote himself,

Meunier Won't Quit

"Anybody who stoops to such ends and gets so technical is doing the party a great deal of harm and should resign from the town committee for the good of the party. The people of the town committee do not want him as a member of the state central committee."

Countering by calling for Gillespie's resignation from the committee, Meunier declared: "It's an attempt on his part to take complete control of the party. I have no intention of resigning from the town committee at present and neither, I'm sure, has Mr. Lefebvre. I and Mrs. Knight are still the state committee members, according to my interpretation.

"The Republican Party would have been much better off if Mr. Gillespie had left it four years ago. His personal ambitions and tactics have resulted in destroying the sup-

port of the party in recent elections. His methods to satisfy his ambitions have been at the expense of the party. Ninety per cent of his political activity during recent years has been directed against other members of the Republican Party and not against some policies of the Democratic Party which were detrimental to the best interests of the town.

"Exorbitant Rates"

"Not once has he or his club ever spoken out against any issue created by the Democrats. Furthermore, he was one of the members of the Kent County Water Authority and tried to saddle the exorbitant rates that were set upon the home owners and created the

impression that the Republican Party in West Warwick was in favor of those increased rates.

"Where was he in the last campaign in West Warwick? What help did he give the Republican Party there? I hereby ask him to resign for the good of the party, along with several of his associates from the club."

Among other members of the club taken on the town committee besides Gillespie, in a move for party harmony under chairmanship of Harold C. Knight, who succeeded Meunier as town chairman are Gustav Olson, Joseph Henault, Roland Demers, Domenic Petrarca of Providence Street and Lionel Belisle.

Unpaid Bettor Asks Arrest Of Bookie

Evening Bulletin 12/6/52
Says State Police to Get
Case Unless W. Warwick
Town Chief Acts

A West Warwick man and his attorney said this morning that unless West Warwick police arrest a bookie today, they will go to the state police.

Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue was taken to the police station by his attorney, Robert R. Afflick, who offered to surrender him for prosecution for placing a bet with the bookie.

When police did not arrest Phillips on the charge, Afflick told them that if they did not pick up the bookie, Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, "Phillips and I will go to the state police."

Admits Placing Bet

Afflick said that Phillips had admitted yesterday in court testimony that he had placed a bet with Forsys and that the police should pick up Forsys on a charge of registering a horse racing bet.

Afflick said that Forsys, who was fined \$50 last spring on a bookmaking charge, will be liable for at least one year in jail if convicted a second time.

He added that his client Phillips would be liable to a \$100 fine at most.

Forsys, who was accused of threatening Phillips after a dispute about a \$3100 payoff, was found guilty yesterday in Fourth District Court, Arctic, in a private complaint case.

Put Under Bond

Judge James W. Leighton placed Forsys under \$2000 bond to keep the peace for 11 months—the maximum time allowed under terms of the law, the judge said.

The judge also commented sharply on "respectable people" who patronize bookies and horse parlors.

"You can't take a pretty good suit of clothes or dress a gangster in evening clothes and make him a respectable citizen," Judge Leighton said. "The people who patronize bookies contribute to the breakdown of law and order."

Brought by Quonset Employee

The private complaint was brought by Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, a civilian aviation electrician at Quonset Point. He is a Chattanooga, Tenn., native who married a West Warwick girl and has lived in the town since 1949.

Phillips testified under examination by his attorney, Robert R. Afflick, that Forsys had refused to pay off on a \$3100 "hit" he made at an establishment he said Forsys operated.

He also testified that when he told Forsys he would go to the police in an effort to get his \$3100, Forsys replied, "It'll do you no good as the chief is a personal friend of mine."

No Friend, Says Groleau

(Police Chief Groleau of West Warwick said later that Forsys was not a friend. He said he had met Forsys on two or three occasions at most, one of them when Forsys was arraigned last spring in the West Warwick police station on a bookmaking charge.)

Phillips then said he told Forsys he was going to state police. "He said he'd kill me, that he would

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Bookie

Bookie

Continued

wait in the alley with a lead pipe," the complainant testified.

Phillips testified he had been in Forsys' bookie parlor all afternoon the day he made the big "hit." He said the bookie parlor was in the Dulleba Building at 1639 Main Street, Crompton. He said he won a parlay and Forsys refused to pay him because he "said I was cheating him."

"He told me to get out and he didn't want to accept any more bets from me," Phillips related.

Case Dismissal Sought

Phillips testified he at first hired Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick town solicitor, as his attorney in an attempt to recover the money he considered that Forsys owed him.

Forsys' attorney, Harry F. McKanna Jr., who was president of the West Warwick Town Council until the Nov. 4 election, attempted unsuccessfully to have the case dismissed on the grounds that the warrant specified a date of Oct. 23 as the time of the alleged offense and that this was not proved.

Judge Leighton said he was placing confidence in the testimony of Norman Coit of Crompton who said that Forsys had told him in Stanley Spa, Main Street, Crompton, that he would kill Phillips.

Put on the stand by Afflick, Coit testified that he had known Forsys for about 25 years and that at the Stanley's Spa meeting Forsys had said of Phillips, "I'll kill him."

"Mean and Vicious"

Coit said Forsys' manner was slightly "mean and vicious." He stuck to the story under cross-examination.

Forsys, who testified he hadn't always been a bookie and had worked in a mill, denied he had made any statement to Coit that he would kill Phillips.

"I believe that a threat of some kind was made," Judge Leighton said. "He made some such threat against this man and none of us is too blind to believe otherwise."

The judge said that in releasing Forsys under the \$2000 bond he was doing all he could under the law. The amount of surety under the bond was supplied by Manuel Walczak.

The judge recalled that Forsys had been fined \$50 and costs by him on a bookmaking charge last spring. He also observed that the defendant apparently had not learned a lesson from his previous experience and warned him to get into legitimate business.

CROMPTON BOOKIE FOUND GUILTY OF THREATENING TO KILL \$3,100 WINNER

W. Links 12/6/52
Walter Forsys, 39, Convicted of Bookmaking
Charges Last May, Placed Under \$2,000
Bond for 11 Months by Judge Leigh-
ton in District Court.

A Crompton bookie was found guilty yesterday of threatening to kill a customer who won \$3100 on a horse parlay and threatened to call police if he wasn't paid off.

Judge James W. Leighton, when imposing a sentence of a \$2000 peace bond for 11 months, attacked the "allegedly respectable" persons who patronize horse parlors for enabling the bookies to stay in business.

Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, who was convicted on bookmaking charges last May, was brought into court on a private complaint of threatening to kill Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, a civilian employee at the Quonset Point Naval Air Station, A "Big Hit"

Phillips testified that he made the "big hit" in Forsys' establishment "either on Oct. 21 or 22." Forsys refused to pay off, he said, charging a "deal" was being put over on him.

Phillips told the court he went

across the street to the Crompton Club for 10 or 15 minutes, and returned to the bookie room, "thinking Forsys might have decided to pay me." Forsys refused to pay the money, he said.

"Then I told him I was going for the police," Phillips testified. "Forsys said it wouldn't do any good, because 'the chief is a personal friend of mine.'"

"When I told him I would go to the state police, he said he would kill me with a lead pipe in an alley," Phillips said.

He said that he went to see his attorney, then Michael DeCiantis, and then went to Judge Leighton, and got a warrant for the arrest of Forsys.

Defense of Forsys

Harry F. McKanna Jr., attorney for Forsys and ex-president of the West Warwick Town Council, based the defense of his client on the fact that the date of the warrant was Oct. 23 and that Phillips had testified that the in-

(Continued on page 6, col. 5)

Crompton Bookie Found Guilty of Threatening to Kill \$3,100 Winner

(Continued from page 1)

cident occurred on Oct. 21 or Oct. 22. Phillips subsequently had changed his testimony, correctly placing the date of the incident on the 23rd.

McKanna maintained that there was no testimony as to the event happening on the date in the warrant, that there was doubt about the correctness of the warrant, and that the judge should consider that doubt. McKanna moved to have the case dismissed on the grounds that the date of the warrant was Oct. 23, and that no evidence had been presented to show that the offense had been committed on that date.

Coit Testifies

Robert R. Afflick, counsel for Phillips, previously had questioned Norman R. Coit, a witness present in the bookie room when the alleged threat was made.

Coit testified that he had known Phillips for six months and Forsys for 25 years. He said that on the morning in discussion he was questioned by Forsys and that Forsys asked him if he was "in on a deal."

"I asked him what deal, and he indicated a horse bet."

"Was there anything else?" Afflick asked.

"Quite a few things," Coit said. "He said he would kill Phillips. I told him he had better find another way of getting even."

Afflick asked Coit what Forsys' attitude was during the discussion. Coit replied that his attitude was mad, and that his voice and manner were "mean and vicious."

McKanna cross-examined him, and Coit stuck to his story.

"Was he mean and vicious like a dog," McKanna said, "frothing at the mouth?"

"No, not that I recollect," Coit replied.

"You don't know what you mean!" McKanna shouted.

Threat was Made

"I believe that a threat was made," Judge Leighton said in explaining his decision.

He pointed out that Coit supported the complainant, Phillips, indicating that Forsys had some feeling of animosity toward him. He was satisfied that the threat was made, he said, not by the testimony of Forsys or Phillips, but by Coit's.

"I do not believe that this is the real issue," the judge said. "If someone made a threat on my life, I am sure I would remember it clearly."

He criticized Forsys for admittedly booking bets after he was fined in May. "Apparently that experience is not enough to make him change his way of living," he said. "The court has to judge Forsys on his background."

Issues Warning

In passing sentence on Forsys, the judge issued a warning to Forsys to "get out of business so fast you won't know what happened."

Forsys had been free on \$2000 bail since Nov. 3, when he was originally arraigned. The judge set the same figure as a peace bond in yesterday's trial. Forsys and Manuel Walczak, who furnished the surety, were warned that if Forsys misbehaved during the next 11 months, the bond would be forfeited.

PROF. JOURNAL - 12/19/52

Bookie Case Put To State Police

W. Warwick Attorney,
Client File Bet Charge;
Citizens Press Inquiry

A West Warwick attorney and his client, who got no action from town police in their complaint against a known bookie, yesterday filed their charge against him with state police.

A few hours later, Robert R. Afflick, the attorney, announced that a committee of West Warwick citizens had just met in what he said was a continuing investigation of gambling "being allowed to flourish in the town."

A brief statement, which declined identification of committee members, said the group presently is concerned with the contention of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, Afflick's client, that West Warwick police have been aware of the horse race bet cited in the complaint, "but to date no attempt at prosecution has been made."

The developing controversy over complaints of gambling in the town also saw a Phenix man fined \$100 on an unrelated bookmaking court, and a warning levelled by Fourth District Court Judge James W. Leighton that the next bookie found guilty before him would be jailed.

Arrested Saturday in a state police raid on his Champ's Poolroom at 811 Main Street, William R. Giguere, 34, of 29½ Pleasant Street, pleaded guilty of bookmaking, peeled \$100 from a large roll of bills and paid his fine without comment.

State police at Wickford barracks received the Phillips complaint against Walter Forsy, 39, of 1560 Main Street, and said it would be transferred to Scituate barracks, whose area includes West Warwick.

Col. John T. Sheehan, superintendent of state police, said that Scituate barracks will investigate the complaint, "and after that a

Continued on Page 10, Col. 1

Bookie Charge

Continued From Page One

decision will be made." He said he would be unable to comment on possible action until after the investigation.

Starting point of the open controversy between West Warwick police and Afflick and Phillips was the Fourth District Court trial Friday resulting in the conviction of Forsy on a charge of threatening to kill Phillips after a dispute over a \$3100 "payoff."

Phillips said in his complaint filed with state police that on Oct. 22, a Wednesday, I placed a bet with Walter Forsy at 1631 Main Street upstairs. Forsy was operating wide open. Anyone could walk up. The door wasn't even locked. I've seen as many as 20 to 25 men in there at one time."

It was that bet on which Phillips charged Forsy with welsing, and with threatening to kill him in the resultant argument.

Unable to Get Arrest

Afflick and Phillips were unsuccessful Saturday in efforts to have West Warwick police arrest Forsy for accepting the bet—and if necessary, hold Phillips as well for placing the wager—as Police Chief Groleau refused to move without consulting Town Solicitor Michael DeClantis, who is vacationing in Florida.

FORYS AND PHILLIPS PLEAD NOT GUILTY

J. J. Lima 12/19/52

Former Charged with Accepting Bet; Latter with Negotiating Bet

A West Warwick bookie and the patron who says he was not paid a \$3100 horse bet pleaded not guilty this morning when arraigned in Fourth District Court, Apponaug.

Walter Forsy was released on \$3000 bail on the charge of accepting horse bets and Eston W. Phillips was released on \$1000 bail after filing a not guilty plea to a charge of making a bet on Oct. 23. Judge James W. Leighton said the case would be heard Dec. 19 in Fourth District Court, West Warwick.

Bail for Forsy was furnished by John and Mary Pinto of 404 Washington Street, Coventry, who put up bail for Forsy when he was arraigned on a complaint of threatening to kill Phillips.

Robert R. Afflick, when asked why he had entered a plea of not guilty, said, "Mr. Phillips is a family man, engaged in a full-time occupation and with a good reputation in town. I had hoped that the previously announced policy of the state police of not arresting the patrons of gambling establishments would have been carried out in this case.

"Since it was not, and since I have no power to grant immunity from prosecution, I took the only course possible to protect my client. The plea of not guilty does not preclude the possibility of changing it."

Major Harrie C. Gill of the state police, when asked if the state police usually did not press charges against the persons who patronized gambling establishments, replied that "each case is judged on its own merits." When asked about the Phillips-Forsy case, he said, "the matter is in the courts and will be settled there."

Forsy Picked Up Today

State police early this morning picked up Forsy, 39, a bookie, who was convicted of attempting to kill Eston W. Phillips over a \$3100 horse bet. A few hours earlier, Phillips had been surrendered at the Bald Hill substation by his attorney, Robert R. Afflick.

Forsy was arrested at 12:30 in Borowski's Cafe on Main Street, Crompton, where he was picked up last April on a charge of bookmaking. Phillips turned himself in shortly after 8 o'clock last night.

Lt. Arthur T. Lee of the Scituate barracks, commander of the northern police district, headed

the investigation in progress since noon yesterday. He said warrants for the two men were obtained yesterday from Judge Leighton.

Lt. Lee said that Phillips was questioned for several hours last night and that the arrest of Forsy was made on his testimony, as well as on a statement he made Sunday to state police at the Wickford barracks, where he went after West Warwick police had refused to take immediate action in the case.

Comment on Committee

A committee to clean up gambling in the town provoked comment from Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano, who said last night he has offered the cooperation of the council and the police to the group if it will make public the names of its members.

Fazzano likened the committee, whose spokesman is Afflick, to a "secret Gestapo group" and said he "wants nothing to do with them" while the membership remains anonymous.

Afflick said that the group is still "investigating evidence that is coming to them from various sources," and said the group wishes to remain anonymous because the "sources" might refuse to talk if the committee membership were known.

"However," he said, "I wish to thank Mr. Fazzano for offering the assistance. But our course of action is mapped, and we are not taking an ultimatum from anybody."

Fazzano Statement

In a statement, Fazzano said, "If any actual citizens' committee of one or 100 persons is interested in improving the town, I and the rest of the town council and the police department want to work with them. But I don't like the idea of an anonymous group.

"If it is any group that refuses to make known the names of its members, I, as council president, want nothing to do with it, because it is then like a secret Gestapo group. In New York and other places they have crime commissions whose members are known, and they do a good job.

"If they make themselves known and have the interest of the town at heart, with reference to gambling or anything else improper, the town council and the police department will work with them 100 per cent."

Afflick in releasing the statement from the "citizens' committee" last night said the group has been in existence since before Phillips' alleged bet with Forsy.

The statement expressed concern over "the growing evidence that gambling is apparently being allowed to flourish in the town," and promised that "at the proper time, the identity of the members will be disclosed along with recommendations to the proper officials, including federal law enforcement agencies."

Committee members "are still investigating evidence that is coming to them from various sources," the statement said.

"At the moment," it concluded, "its membership is concerned with the revelation by an affidavit of Eston W. Phillips which it has in its possession that certain officials of this town have known since Oct. 24, 1952, that Walter Forsy had 'booked horse' on Oct. 22, 1952, but to date no attempt at prosecution has been made."

Dozen Persons at Meeting

Afflick would make no further comment beyond indicating that more than a dozen persons attended last night's meeting. The statement said the committee also had met last Thursday.

The attorney said he went to Chief Groleau's house yesterday and told him Phillips wanted to correct a date in a statement concerning the bet with Forsy. "I wanted to give Groleau every chance to take this thing up," he added.

Afflick said the chief reiterated his stand and added a new refusal when the attorney suggested that Groleau get a legal opinion on the case from Attorney General William E. Povers. It was after that visit that Afflick and Phillips went to Wickford barracks to file the complaint.

Sgt. Harold T. McGovern, Wickford barracks commander, took

the complaint and told the pair they probably would be received at Scituate barracks this morning.

The raid resulting in Giguere's arraignment at a special session of Fourth District Court, Arctic, took place without the knowledge of West Warwick police.

Two Patrons Not Charged

Lt. Arthur Lee of state police, arraignment officer, said the poolroom in the Lippitt section where Giguere and two patrons were found with various betting paraphernalia had been under state police surveillance for some time. The two patrons were not charged.

Judge Leighton said he realized that Giguere was not the only person involved and that some form of "collusion" or organization is necessary for any bookie to get his racing results moments after the races have ended.

Phillips said he told McGovern that Forsy got his racing results by radio and then made the payoffs.

Judge Leighton on Friday released Forsy under \$2000 bond to keep the peace for 11 months, the most the law allowed, according to the court.

Said Afflick yesterday: "He's a man convicted of a threat to kill, he's at large, and we want him picked up on a bookmaking charge."

Accused Bookie And Patron Held By State Police

Two W. Warwick Men
In Non-Payoff Case
Face Betting Charges

A once-convicted West Warwick bookie and the patron who claims he was bilked of \$3100 on a parlay payoff were locked up at West Warwick police headquarters early today after their arrest by state police.

Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, who was found guilty last Friday of threatening to kill Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, was taken into custody by state police shortly before 12:30 a.m. today.

Forsys was arrested in Borowski's Cafe, Main Street, Crompton, the same place where state police took him into custody on a bookmaking charge last April.

Phillips was surrendered at the Bald Hill substation by his attorney, Robert R. Afflick, shortly after 8 o'clock last night.

Lt. Arthur T. Lee of the Scituate barracks, commander of the northern state police district, led yesterday's day-long investigation which resulted in the arrests.

Warrants Obtained

He said that warrants for the two men were obtained from Judge James W. Leighton and that the pair probably would be arraigned in Fourth District Court, Apponaug, this morning—Phillips on a charge of placing a bet and Forsys, of registering a bet.

If convicted, Forsys faces a maximum jail sentence of five years and a minimum sentence of one year as a second offender.

Forsys was convicted of registering a horse bet on a state police complaint last Apr. 27. He pleaded no contest and was fined \$50 and costs.

Lieutenant Lee said Phillips was questioned for several hours yesterday after being surrendered and the subsequent arrest of Forsys was based, not only on a statement made Sunday by Phillips at the Wickford barracks, but also on information he furnished during the questioning.

Attorney General Enters

In the meanwhile, the facilities of both the local police in West Warwick and the offices of the attorney general had been offered last night to citizens of the town who say they want to stamp out bookmaking there.

State police got into the case on the complaint of Afflick and his client, Edward F. J. Dwyer, assistant attorney general, said his department might get into the case before it is over.

He said it was discussed with Attorney General William E. Powers

Continued on Page 6, Col. 3

Accused Bookie

Continued From Page One

before he left for an attorneys general conference in Georgia.

"We wouldn't get into the case unless it is obviously being ignored by local police," Dwyer said. "I don't know what they are doing about it."

Council's Aid Offered

Meanwhile, in a new phase of the widening bookie investigation, Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, said last night he has offered council and police co-operation to a citizens' group which Afflick said is investigating gambling.

Fazzano, an assistant attorney general, made the condition, however, that the group must drop its anonymity, which he likened to that of a "secret Gestapo group." Otherwise, he said, he wants "nothing to do with them."

For the present, there seemed little likelihood that Fazzano's stipulation would be complied with. Affirming that he had thanked Fazzano for the proffered aid, Afflick said the citizens who are piecing together information about gambling feel their sources might "shut up" if identities were made known.

Afflick Keeps Silence

Afflick personally declined to name names or to say how many are in the group which, at a Sunday night meeting, expanded and elected a chairman. The names will not be announced "until the proper time," the attorney said. As to the membership, "the figure is low," he added.

Concerning Fazzano's insistence on knowing the identity of the membership, Afflick said, "Our course of action is mapped and we're not taking an ultimatum from anybody."

The part played by Police Chief Groleau, who has been asked by Fazzano to attend tonight's council meeting, in the complaint brought against Forsys by Phillips was also the object of a renewed attack by Afflick yesterday. The attorney pegged his complaint on Fazzano's offer of police co-operation.

"Why," Afflick asked, "did Chief Groleau refuse to take a statement from my man (Phillips) yesterday? The fact is that the police department has not co-operated. They have known about Phillips' case since Nov. 16."

Case Reported "Closed"

Afflick said he went with his client to see the chief at the police station Saturday and, failing to find him there, went to the chief's home Sunday. Their aim, he said, was to give the chief a corrected version of the date on which Phillips placed bets with Forsys.

The chief's response, Afflick continued, was to call the case "closed" and to decline to take a statement

before getting advice from Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis. DeCiantis left Friday for a Florida vacation, reportedly for two weeks.

The chief was reported by Afflick as saying he might go to the attorney general's department for legal advice, as suggested by Afflick, but that the case was closed until DeCiantis' return.

Calls Position Reversed

In reference to Groleau's claim that he was waiting for Phillips to correct the date on the statement, Afflick said:

"Contrary to previous public statements that he wanted Phillips to correct the statement, the chief now says that he doesn't want Phillips' statement.

"I want to know why a police officer went to Phillips' house last Thursday morning and, told that Phillips had gone to work, advised his wife, after talking by radio with the police station, to forget all about it."

Afflick said police could have talked to Phillips when he was in court Friday morning during trial of his private complaint against Forsys.

"The plain fact of the matter is the law is not being enforced," Afflick declared. "It's been over three weeks since the original complaint to the police department. The knowledge also was in the hands of Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis on at least Oct. 24."

First Went to DeCiantis

According to Phillips' court testimony, he had first hired DeCiantis to represent him in trying to collect \$3100 allegedly owed him by Forsys on a horse bet hit. Phillips alleged that Forsys welshed on the bet, placed in Forsys' bookie room in the Dulleba Building, Main Street, Crompton. Harry F. McKanna Jr., Fazzano's predecessor as president of the town council, was Forsys' attorney in Friday's court case.

Fazzano's full statement on the citizens' committee follows:

"If any actual citizens' committee of one or 100 persons is interested in improving the town, I and the rest of the town council and the police department want to work with them. But I don't like the idea of an anonymous group.

"If it's any group that refuses to make known the names of its members, I, as council president, want nothing to do with them, because it's then like a secret Gestapo group. In New York and other places they have crime commissions whose members are known, and they do a good job.

"If they make themselves known and have the interest of the town at heart, with reference to gambling or anything else improper, the town council and the police department will work with them 100 per cent."

PROV. JOURNAL 12/10/52

West Warwick Council Votes Confidence in Police, Chief

Action Follows Arraignment of Once-Convicted
Bookie, Patron Who Charges Welshing on Bet

The West Warwick Town Council last night voted its confidence in the police department and Police Chief Groleau, who "has always been ready to co-operate with the expressed desire of the town council to eliminate and prevent any form of gambling."

The council's expression of confidence in the chief, recently assailed by an attorney in the town for not enforcing the law, was given a few hours after a once-convicted West Warwick bookie and the patron who contends the bookie welshed on a \$3100 payoff were both arraigned in Fourth District Court.

Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, pleaded innocent to a charge that he placed a bet.

The alleged welsher, Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, pleaded innocent to a charge of bookmaking.

Judge James W. Leighton held Phillips in bail of \$1000, which he furnished in cash, and Forsys in \$3000 bail for trial Dec. 19. John

and Mary Pinto of 404 Washington Street went bail for him yesterday.

Asked why Phillips pleaded innocent in view of his previous contentions, his attorney, Robert R. Afflick, made this statement, in writing, after first declining comment:

"Mr. Phillips is a family man with a fulltime occupation in gainful employment. He enjoys an excellent reputation in the community. He is responsible for the big break in the exposure of bookies in West Warwick.

"We had hoped that the previously stated policy of the Rhode Island State Police of not arresting patrons of a gambling establishment would have been carried out in this case. Since it was not, and since I have no powers to grant immunity from prosecution that a public prosecutor has, I took the only course possible to protect my client.

"The plea today does not preclude the possibility of a change at a later date."

Previously Afflick had said that if West Warwick police would not

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Backs Police

Continued From Page One

arrest his client and Forsys he would take his client, Phillips, to state police and surrender him to that department for prosecution.

State police commented at the time that those who place bets with bookies are seldom if ever prosecuted.

Wanted DeCiantis Advice

Afflick's charge that the West Warwick Police Department was not enforcing the law was the result of Groleau's telling him last week that he wanted to wait for advice from Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, presently in Florida, before accepting a corrected affidavit from Phillips that he placed a bet with Forsys Oct. 22 in the latter's Crompton bookie parlor.

Asst. Atty. Gen. Francis J. Fazzano, president of the West Warwick Town Council, told the council he had the utmost confidence in Groleau and commented:

"I have said in the past, and it is

still my opinion, that an action by an attorney to have his client and someone else arrested is odd. The attitude of the chief that he wanted a few days to obtain legal advice was all right. A few days in the matter of making an arrest is of no import."

Backs Chief's Stand

Noting that Phillips yesterday pleaded innocent in Fourth District Court to a charge of placing a bet, Fazzano added, "It seems to be more and more obvious that the chief's position that he wanted to await for legal advice was proper, in view of this not guilty plea."

Fazzano told spectators at the council meeting that he had told the press that the council and police department were ready, and are still ready, to co-operate with any citizens committee of reputable citizens interested in improving "conditions allegedly bad."

Afflick had previously called Fazzano's statement that he would pay no attention to the citizens' committee unless its members names were made known "an ultimatum which we are not going to take from anybody."

To this, Fazzano said last night, "It was not an ultimatum. But I personally will not deal with any person who refuses to identify himself. We will give flat co-operation if they come out in the open. As

long as they insist on remaining secret I am not interested in the least in anything they or their spokesman (Afflick) have to say."

West Warwick Council Praises

Fazzano Backs Police Chief In Forys Case

Evening Bulletin 12/10/52
Calls Delay in Acting
Proper in View of
Court Developments

Pawtuxet Valley Office | Telephone
15 Washington Street | VA 1-8290
West Warwick | VA 1-7087

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The council's expression of confidence in the chief, recently accused by an attorney in the town of not enforcing the law, was given a few hours after a once-convicted West Warwick bookie and the patron who contends the bookie welshed on a \$3100 payoff were both arraigned in Fourth District Court.

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Judge James W. Leighton held Phillips in bail of \$1000, which he furnished in cash, and Forys in \$3000 bail for trial Dec. 19. John and Mary Pinto of 404 Washington Street went bail for him.

The charge that Groleau was not enforcing the law was made by Robert R. Afflick, attorney for Phillips. It resulted from Groleau's telling him last week that he wanted to wait for advice from Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who is now in Florida, before accepting a corrected affidavit from Phillips that he placed a bet with Forys Oct. 22.

Asst. Atty. Gen. Francis J. Fazzano, president of the West Warwick Town Council, told the council he had the utmost confidence in Groleau and commented,

"I have said in the past, and it is still my opinion, that an action by an attorney to have his client and someone else arrested is odd. The attitude of the chief that he wanted a few days to obtain legal advice was all right. A few days in the matter of making an arrest is of no import."

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Groleau's Fight on Gambling

CONFIDENCE VOTE GIVEN TO GROLEAU

P. J. Lincea 12/10/52

West Warwick Council Backs Chief of Police

West Warwick Town Council last night gave a vote of confidence to the police department and its chief, Arthur Groleau, "in view of articles in the newspapers in the past few days which have reflected upon the town."

Just before reading the prepared resolution, Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano again made a plea to the citizens committee, "If there is any citizens committee" to come out into the open for cooperation."

The council's vote of confidence in the chief, who has been assailed by a local attorney for not enforcing the law, was made the night after an alleged West War-

wick bookie and alleged patron who contends the bookie welshed on a payoff, entered not guilty pleas of receiving and making a bet, respectively, in Fourth District Court.

Backs Chief Groleau

Fazzano said, "I have had and still have the best opinion of the chief of police. His desire to wait before determining to make an arrest until the arrival of the town solicitor (Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, is in Florida) is proper, and I would do the same."

The town council president said I have stated through the newspapers that if there is any citizens committee which would do any good for the town, the town council is ready to cooperate. Contrary to the opinion of attorney Robert Afflick, this is not an ultimatum but I personally will refuse to cooperate with any group who will not make their identity known, he added.

Text of Resolution

The resolution giving the police department and its chief a clean slate, follows:

"Resolved that the town council of the town of West Warwick wishes to state that it has the utmost confidence in the police department of the town of West Warwick under the administration of Chief of Police Arthur Groleau. Chief Arthur Groleau has always been ready to cooperate with the expressed desire of

(Continued on page 2, col 4)

CONFIDENCE VOTE GIVEN TO GROLEAU

(Continued from page 1)

the town council to eliminate and prevent any form of gambling in the town of West Warwick."

The newspaper articles to which Fazzano refers are to bookmaking. Yesterday at Fourth District Court, Warwick, Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, pleaded innocent to a charge that he placed a bet and was released in bail of \$1000. Walter Forys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, pleaded innocent to a charge of bookmaking and was released in bail of \$3000 for trial Dec. 19. Last Friday Forys was placed on probation for 11 months under a \$2000 peace bond when he was found guilty of threatening Phillips for allegedly not making a \$3100 payoff on a horse race bet, to Phillips.

Petition Zoning Change

In other business the town council turned down the petition of Vincenzo DiCarlo and Giuseppe Trafficante for an exception to the zoning laws to establish a used automobile parts, sales and storage business between Begonia, Canina and Daisy Streets, Natick. Several remonstrants appeared and a letter was received in protest from St. Joseph's Church, Natick.

The petition signed by 17 nearby residents and the Portuguese-American Sportsman Club in protest to the Crompton Grain Company and Crompton Hatchery in raising chickens on Bridge Street, Riverpoint, was referred to Health Officer Dr. John A. Mack and to the police department, if necessary. Antonio B. Motta, who said he was speaking for George F. Lancellotta who is in Florida to attend the Orange Bowl game, said the raising of chickens on Bridge Street has created a health menace and there is an odor nuisance.

Another petition signed by 32 residents of Cleveland Street, asked improvements be made to that highway. Highway Commissioner Henry Petrarca said he is waiting now for that road to be gravelled before it is surfaced.

The petition of Joseph Brindamour of 15 Walnut Street to have a drainage wall repaired in front of his property was referred to the highway department.

Tax Abatements

Upon recommendation of the board of tax assessors the following tax abatements for 1952 were ordered: Yvon Archambault, \$125.55, the tax charged for property on Bedard Street, being used as a municipal parking lot; Leo Langlois, joint tenant with Albert C. Coutu, \$126.66, the tax charged for property on Curson Street being used as a municipal parking lot; Leo E. Saute, \$28.58, the tax charged for property on Robert Street being used as a municipal parking lot; Joseph A. Melancon, 1465 Main Street, tax of \$19.69 paid in North Kingstown.

Appointed members of the West Warwick Fire Department were Albert J. Carrington of 20 Bradford Court, Armand P. Gentile of 7 Penta Court, Carmine O. Lautieri of 10 Penta Court and Domenic Scolavino of 747 Providence Street.

Police Constables

Appointed police constables were Robert Graham, Edward McKenna, Michael Regauld and William Palazzo.

Licenses were granted as follows: victualling house to Edward Gazzo for the Hill Top Lunch, 712 Providence Street; tag day, Dec. 19, Kent County Voiture, 40 & 8, American Legion, for their child welfare fund; Polish Falcons a New Year's eve dance on Dec. 31; St. John's Church, a bazaar at St. John's Hall on Feb. 13, 14, 16 and 17, and a carnival at the recory grounds, July 13 to 18th inclusive, and July 23, 24 and 25; pool tables, Peter Lukowicz for Lukowicz's Spa, 1662 Main Street; Arthur Ritchotte for Ritchotte's Filling Station, 836 Main Street; Joseph D. Saucier, 1211 Main Street; bowling alley, George Eri-nakes at 17 Crawford Street; Ursula E. McGrath at corner of Main and Packard Streets; Faust R. Petrarca, 610 Providence Street; automatic oil burner installation, Norman F. Afflick, 610 Providence Street; Howard Benson of 42 Hector Street, East Greenwich; Milton O. Graham, George DiDonato and Norman Hill of Sears Roebuck & Co.

Bookie Case Charges Fly in West Warwick

Pawtuxet Valley Office
13 Washington Street
West Warwick Telephone
VA-1-8200
VA-1-7087

Assistant Atty. Gen. Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick town council president, said last night that Robert R. Afflick, attorney for Eston W. Phillips, key figure in the West Warwick bookie case, "has the same right as anyone else to come to a council meeting and make any statement he wishes."

In a blast at Fazzano yesterday, Afflick had said, "if Mr. Fazzano is sincerely interested in co-operating, I request the opportunity to appear before the next council meeting to

present to the council all of the evidence that we have in this case thus far."

Afflick also took issue with remarks made by Fazzano at a council meeting Tuesday when councilmen gave Police Chief Groleau a vote of confidence. He said they contained "misstatements of fact."

Meanwhile, there was considerable speculation in the Pawtuxet Valley yesterday on what will happen when Phillips', 29-year-old civilian aviation electrician at Quonset, and Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, come up for trial Dec. 19 in West Warwick District Court.

Both men testified last Friday in the same court during Forsys' trial on Phillips' private complaint that Forsys threatened to kill him, that Phillips placed a bet with Forsys in his former Crompton bookie parlor. Phillips testified the threat to kill grew out of a \$3100 winning he made, which Forsys allegedly refused to pay off.

On Tuesday, both men pleaded innocent to charges brought by state police, who entered the case after Afflick and Forsys went to them saying local police were taking no action. Forsys pleaded innocent to a charge of bookmaking and Phillips, to placing a bet.

The men are scheduled to be tried before Judge James W. Leighton, who last Friday heard their testimony that the betting took place and then released Forsys under \$2000 bond to keep the peace for 11 months.

Gamblers Warned By Police Chief

In West Warwick

Police Chief Groleau of West Warwick yesterday issued a sharp warning that any persons found violating gambling laws in the town will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Groleau said his warning was aimed at any persons who have been gambling or intend to participate in any form of gambling and that "actions of that sort will not be tolerated in any manner."

Groleau added, "This warning is not to be taken lightly, nor is it a temporary affair."

Council Head Makes Reply

Fazzano Says Way Open if Afflick Has Statement to Make

Assistant Atty. Gen. Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick town council president, said last night that Robert R. Afflick, attorney for Eston W. Phillips, key figure in the West Warwick bookie case, "has the same right as anyone else to come to a council meeting and make any statement he wishes."

In a blast at Fazzano yesterday, Afflick had said, "if Mr. Fazzano is sincerely interested in co-operating, I request the opportunity to appear before the next council meeting to present to the council all of the evidence that we have in this case thus far."

Afflick also took issue with remarks made by Fazzano at a council meeting Tuesday when councilmen gave Police Chief Groleau a vote of confidence. He said they contained "misstatements of fact."

Meanwhile, there was considerable speculation in the Pawtuxet Valley yesterday on what will happen when Phillips', 29-year-old civilian aviation electrician at Quonset, and Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, come up for trial Dec. 19 in West Warwick District Court.

Both men testified last Friday in the same court during Forsys' trial on Phillips' private complaint that Forsys threatened to kill him, that Phillips placed a bet with Forsys in his former Crompton bookie parlor. Phillips testified the threat to kill grew out of a \$3100 winning he made, which Forsys allegedly refused to pay off.

On Tuesday, both men pleaded innocent to charges brought by state police, who entered the case after Afflick and Forsys went to them saying local police were taking no action. Forsys pleaded innocent to a charge of bookmaking and Phillips, to placing a bet.

The men are scheduled to be tried before Judge James W. Leighton, who last Friday heard their testimony that the betting took place and then released Forsys under \$2000 bond to keep the peace for 11 months.

'I Won't Resign,' Meunier Vows

W. Warwick Republican Calls Local GOP Club A 'Minority Faction'

Refusing to resign from the West Warwick Republican town committee as demanded by the West Warwick GOP Club, Tuesday in a battle for party control, Roland E. Meunier yesterday charged the club with disrupting the party and urged that club members who are also on the town committee themselves resign "if they continue this activity creating weakness in party support."

The club on Tuesday called for Meunier and Ernest E. Lefebvre, his close ally, to resign "for the good of the party." Lefebvre Wednesday assailed the club as a minority faction and said he would not take their dictation.

"I don't intend to resign," Meunier said. "It has not even been contemplated. I'm still a Republican working for the party. My record speaks for itself on behalf of the party, as compared to these newcomers who are unaware of the purpose of their membership on the committee and the duty they owe to the many supporters of the party in the town."

"Apparently their sole purpose is to reduce the party support through these nonsensical meetings and action taken at these so-called club meetings. My understanding is that there were 20 individuals present at the meeting Tuesday out of a total support in the last election of 4000 votes. Certainly they represent no one but themselves and their personal feelings."

"Since the inception of the club four years ago the tactics are the same today as they were then, namely to control the party machinery at the expense of party support."

He continued, "It is hard to understand how so-called Republicans can continue to fight other Republicans of proven records when there are so many issues of interest for the welfare of the town that they are unaware of or ignore intentionally."

"Our attempt at unity in placing some of these club members on the town committee I felt was a bad policy to follow on the basis of their previous activity against the welfare of the party. Certainly their action now indicates that I was absolutely right."

"I am not being misled by the noise and misrepresentations they make. I do not intend to resign. My work for the party shall be in the light of my best judgment for the welfare of the party, which my record proves has been a fact over the years."

"I ask for the resignation of all the members of the town committee from the club who intend to continue this activity creating weakness in support of the party. I also ask that the club discontinue all activities and cease using the press to mislead the Republicans of the town. The welfare of the party demands that this be done."

U.S. Intervenes In Bookie Case

Grand Jury Charges Forsys With Failing To Buy Federal Stamp

Walter Forsys, 37, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, was arraigned before Judge Edward L. Leahy in U.S. District Court yesterday afternoon on a secret indictment charging violation of the federal gambling tax law. He pleaded innocent.

Already charged by state authorities with bookmaking, Forsys is the first Rhode Islander to be prosecuted under the federal gambling tax statute since it took effect Nov. 1, 1951.

He was charged in the secret indictment returned last Friday by a federal grand jury with accepting a horse race wager without having purchased the special \$50 gambling tax stamp; with failure to post the stamp denoting the payment of the tax in his principal place of business at 1631 Main Street, West Warwick; and with failure to make a return by Dec. 1, stating the amount of wagers received during October and to pay an excise tax equal to 10 per cent of the bets received.

The indictment charged that he accepted a bet on Oct. 22. Under the law, persons who engaged in accepting bets must file a return and pay the excise tax at the end of the month following that in which they transacted business. Nov. 30 this year fell on Sunday so that a return and tax for that month would be due Dec. 1.

Leo P. McGowan, defense counsel, was given until Jan. 5 to file special pleas in the case. Bail of \$1000 was fixed by Judge Leahy on

Continued on Page 17 Col. 3

Forsys Indicted

Continued From Page One

the recommendation of Joseph L. Breen, assistant U.S. attorney.

Bail was furnished by Kenneth and Helen Lamont of 1558 Main Street, West Warwick.

Forsys was arrested in Arctic yesterday morning by Deputy U.S. Marshals Edward A. Curran and James A. Lapan.

Forsys and Eston W. Phillips, 29, of Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, both were arraigned last week in district court at Warwick. Phillips, who claims Forsys welshed on a bet, pleaded innocent to a charge of placing a bet. Forsys pleaded innocent to the bookmaking charge. Both are awaiting trial Dec. 19.

West Warwick High Set For Bowl Game Tonight

40° Drop in Temperature Helps R.I. Team
As It Meets Heavier, Favored Miami Eleven

By DICK REYNOLDS

Miami—As temperatures here tumbled 40 degrees, West Warwick's chances for victory over Miami High School in the Orange Bowl tonight rose correspondingly.

It looks as if the Rhode Islanders will get their wish to fight a cold war against the tropical Stingarees for the forecast promises an even greater drop in temperature this evening.

But even with the weatherman as their ally, the R.I. team is a definite short-ender to the monstrous Miamians, who are openly confident of running over the "pore little Rhode Islanders."

The two squads had their first chance to size up each other yesterday during a luncheon at the host school, which, though the smallest of Miami's four public highs, is so huge that one of our

operatives commented: "Their corridors are bigger than our classrooms."

As they stepped off the bus at the school, the players were welcomed warmly by several charming hostesses, who continued the perfect Southern hospitality extended since the boys stepped off the plane.

Served an excellent turkey dinner in the school cafeteria, where 2000 Miami students are fed daily, the players were surrounded by their adversaries, whose greater size suggested father and son in several cases.

After the meal, our gang was taken on a tour of inspection through the beautiful stucco Spanish-type building, but they were politely excluded from a pep rally.

Continued on Page 12, Col. 2

West Warwick Faces Might Outweighed, Outman

Continued From Page One

By DICK REYNOLDS

Although the Miami attitude toward us is not arrogant, the Southerners are obviously sure that they play a better brand of football. If their superior size and reserve strength do not overwhelm their visitors, the husky Stings are going to be very surprised.

Their coach, Charlie Tate, a gracious host and, along with Monk Maznicki among the most candid coaches ever encountered by this reporter, even expressed concern that it might be no contest as he drawled:

"These West Warwick boys are pretty small, stacked up against ours. Sure, your backs have a lot of speed, but because our boys are big

doesn't mean they're slow. C down here we hit awful hard. C petition is tough down here, play the game up to the hilt three months' spring practice, conditioning work in boxing tumbling all year 'round."

Tate is by nature too sincere to be trying to scare anybody such disclosures. But regardless of motive, all that emphasis on power left Maznicki quite unpressed. He replied:

"I know Miami is big and ably just as tough, but I've seen all over the country and football, regardless of where played. I'm sure we'll move against them, but I won't know how do defensively until they get ball."

On this premise, he will re-

Before The House

BY BRADFORD F. SWAN

'Brandy for the Parson' at Carlton; 'Prisoner of Zenda' at Loew's State; Majestic Has 'My Pal Gus'

The Carlton Theater presents "BRANDY FOR THE PARSON," Arthur Mayer-Edward Kingsley lease of a British picture, directed by John Eldridge from a story by Geoffrey Household. The cast:

James Donald
Kenneth More
Jean Lodge
Frederick Piper
Charles Hawtrey
Michael Trubshawe
The British, with their flair for comedy based on odd situations, come up here with a little item which involves brandy smuggling some very unprofessional smugglers.

Mr. Donald and Miss Lodge, lovers hoping for a holiday cruise board his yacht, get into the mugging when they run down and sink a cabin cruiser in which Mr. More has planned to cross the channel to France and bring back shipment of brandy. He from a sense of obligation and she from desire for an adventure carry through with the scheme until it reaches a stage where they can't back out.

With their "hot" brandy on their hands they undergo a series of adventures the likes of which always appeal to the British idea of intellectual humor, and consequently there are such developments as using a bunch of circus ponies and the Old Roman Road for transporting the kegs of the stuff.

It's just a mild little adventure, but certainly an enjoyable one for any movie-goers who are suffi-



Your He

By Peter Pineo C

Editor-in-Ch

R.I. Medical J

Q. I am a man, and have some pains For the past several upper joint of my foot my left hand hurts, is swollen. I am told it is arthritis. Also during weeks I am having pain on the back of my neck of a stiff neck. What should I do to get rid of the pain, and also if it is a doctor, what kind of doctor should I see?

A. There is little doubt you have arthritis. Near your age. It does not like rheumatoid arthritis so bad and causes pain, suffering and crippling. An old-fashioned name of it is just as good as arthritis.



Bob Boisvert
West Warwick End

Board Discovers

2 Alien Ballots

Evening Journal 12/16/52
Coventry Unit Gets

W. Warwick GI's Votes by Mistake

Pawtuxet Valley Office Telephone
18 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

Two straight Republican servicemen's ballots for strongly-Democratic West Warwick—perhaps seeking a place where they counted—turned up in Coventry last night when that GOP town's canvassing board was tallying the final votes cast in the Nov. 4 election.

Both, along with a third blank ballot, for the neighboring town, immediately were ordered dispatched to the State Board of Elections by the board chairman, Jerry Johnson—a Democrat. His disposition of the votes was seconded, of course, by Republican member Everett E. Hudson, Antonio Ruzzo, outgoing Democratic member, was absent.

Whether the ballots will be added to West Warwick's figures is conjectural with neither board member vouching an answer. Both were similarly unsure as to how the papers arrived in Coventry at all. It was an all-around conclusion, however, that the state election board was to blame.

Just as the errant ballots stood no chance at all of changing the West Warwick election results, Coventry's 48 valid servicemen's ballots were added to previous poll figures without materially affecting the election decisions already announced.

The breakdown of the ballots showed 23 straight Republican, nine straight Democratic, 15 split, and one spoiled.

DeCiantis Defends Act In Bookie Threat Case

Evening Journal 12/20/52
Pawtuxet Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, just returned from two weeks' vacation in Miami, last night declared that he had acted in keeping with his office in preliminaries to the pending trial of a West Warwick bookie and his admitted patron.

DeCiantis confirmed testimony of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, given during trial of his private complaint against Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, on a charge of threatening to kill Phillips.

Phillips had testified that he had retained DeCiantis as his attorney in October to try to force Forsys to pay him \$3100, which he allegedly won on horse bets and which Forsys refused to pay.

Went to Police Chief

DeCiantis said Phillips went to his office on Oct. 24 and gave him a \$100 retainer for the case. At that time, in answer to his question, DeCiantis said, Phillips told him he had been to Police Chief Groleau about the case. DeCiantis then obtained a writ from the sheriff and it was served on Forsys the same day, in an action for debt on assumpsit for \$3100, DeCiantis said.

DeCiantis said he understood the chief made certain that the alleged bookie parlor on Main Street, Crompton, was closed.

The suit had not come up in court, DeCiantis said, when Phillips came to him again and told him he wanted to drop it and that Forsys had threatened to kill him.

"I Made Sure He Closed"

On hearing of the threat, DeCiantis said, he told Phillips to go to Judge James W. Leighton of Fourth District Court and swear out a private complaint against Forsys, charging him with making the threat. He said he made an appointment with the judge for Phillips, but that Phillips did not show up and there was delay before he did.

"I also told him I wanted him to go to the police and make a statement about the bet, or otherwise I wouldn't try his case," DeCiantis said. "Finally, he did go."

"I was the one who made sure that this man allegedly operating a bookie place closed it up," DeCiantis declared.

"Didn't Want to Bother"

Robert Afflick, now attorney for Phillips, has declared that the law was not being enforced in the town, that DeCiantis had knowledge of the case on Oct. 24 and that Chief Groleau had a statement from Phillips more than three weeks before Dec. 9.

DeCiantis said Phillips came to him two days before trial on Dec. 5 of the private complaint of a threat to kill (on which Forsys was found guilty and for which he now is under \$2000 bond to keep the peace) and said he didn't want to "bother with it any more." He then apparently retained Afflick, who represented him in the Dec. 9 trial.

When Phillips last came to him, DeCiantis said, he asked him if he would testify against Forsys on the bookmaking charge and Phillips reportedly said he would.

State Police Took Over

While DeCiantis was on vacation, Afflick and Phillips went to Chief Groleau and offered to correct a

statement regarding the bets, which Groleau had said contained a wrong date. Groleau told them then that he wanted to wait for legal advice from DeCiantis.

Afflick then surrendered Phillips to state police and they arrested both Phillips and Forsys on Dec. 8 and arraigned them on Dec. 9, Phillips on a charge of placing a bet and Forsys on a bookmaking charge. Both men pleaded innocent.

Forsys, who had been represented on the threat-to-kill charge by Harry F. McKanna Jr., former town council president, now has Leo McGowan as his attorney. McGowan's petition for permission to withdraw Forsys' innocent plea and file special pleas is scheduled to come before Judge Leighton in Apponaug District Court next Tuesday. Trial of the two men is set for Dec. 26 in West Warwick. It was continued for one week there yesterday.

De Ciantis Explains Part in Bookie Case

Evening Bulletin 12/20/52
West Warwick Solicitor, Back from
Florida, Describes Events Before Arrests

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, just returned from two weeks' vacation in Miami, last night declared that he had acted in keeping with his office in preliminaries to the pending trial of a West Warwick bookie and his admitted patron.

And today the solicitor added a denunciation of the unidentified committee allegedly set up, "in my absence," to investigate police action against gambling conditions in the town. De Ciantis demanded the group drop its anonymity.

DeCiantis confirmed testimony of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, given during trial of his private complaint against Walter Forsys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, on a charge of threatening to kill Phillips.

Phillips had testified that he had retained DeCiantis as his attorney in October to try to force Forsys to pay him \$3100, which he allegedly won on horse bets and which Forsys refused to pay.

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DeCiantis said he understood the chief made certain that the alleged bookie parlor on Main Street, Crompton, was closed.

The suit had not come up in court, DeCiantis said, when Phillips came to him again and told him he wanted to drop it and that Forsys had threatened to kill him.

"I Made Sure He Closed"

On hearing of the threat, DeCiantis said, he told Phillips to go to Judge James W. Leighton of Fourth District Court and swear out a private complaint against Forsys, charging him with making the threat. He said he made an appointment with the judge for Phillips, but that Phillips did not show up and there was delay before he did.

"I was the one who made sure that this man allegedly operating a bookie place closed it up," DeCiantis declared.

Robert Afflick, now attorney for Phillips, has declared that the law

was not being enforced in the town, that DeCiantis had knowledge of the case on Oct. 24 and that Chief Groleau had a statement from Phillips more than three weeks before Dec. 9.

Although not mentioning Afflick directly, De Ciantis unmistakably lashed out at him, dubbing the attorney "an outsider who just moved in from Coventry and is carrying the ball in my absence, degrading and defacing the name of our fair town."

"I will start by asking this outsider to immediately and forthwith make public the names of the committee who he claims . . . is investigating gambling in West Warwick. Any man or woman who is on this purported committee ought to have his or her name published and fear nothing."

DeCiantis said Phillips came to him two days before trial on Dec. 5 of the private complaint of a threat to kill (on which Forsys was found guilty and for which he now is under \$2000 bond to keep the peace) and said he didn't want to "bother with it any more." He then apparently retained Afflick, who represented him in the Dec. 9 trial.

When Phillips last came to him, DeCiantis said, he asked him if he would testify against Forsys on the bookmaking charge and Phillips reportedly said he would.

While DeCiantis was on vacation, Afflick and Phillips went to Chief Groleau and offered to correct a statement regarding the bets, which Groleau had said contained a wrong date. Groleau told them then that he wanted to wait for legal advice from DeCiantis.

Afflick then surrendered Phillips to state police and they arrested both Phillips and Forsys on Dec. 8 and arraigned them on Dec. 9, Phillips on a charge of placing a bet and Forsys on a bookmaking charge. Both men pleaded innocent.

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TOWN SOLICITOR DEMANDS REVELATION OF "CITIZENS COMMITTEE" ON GAMBLING

P.V. Jones 12/20/52
Michael DeCiantis, on Return from Florida,
Says People of Town Entitled to Live Free
from Secret and "Gestapo" Methods.

Michael DeCiantis, Town Solicitor, on his return last night to West Warwick from a short stay in Florida demanded the revelation of the "secret committee" which Attorney Robert R. Afflick claims is investigating gambling in West Warwick.

DeCiantis charged last night: "While I was away watching the West Warwick High School Football team blazing the name of West Warwick in honor of our town, an outsider who just moved in from Coventry was carrying the ball in West Warwick in my absence degrading and defacing the name of our fair town.

"He made quite a few hundred yard dashes in my absence. He was just like 'the mouse that played while the cat was away'. But now I will do a little forward passing in defense of West Warwick myself and show the town the man is nothing but a publicity seeker.

"I will start by asking this outsider to immediately name and make public the names of the committee who he claims is a citizens committee who is investigating gambling in West Warwick. "Any man or woman who is on this purported committee ought to authorize to have his or her name published and fear nothing.

"The people of this town are entitled to live free of any attempt on the part of any purported committee and not be intimidated by secret tactics which are nothing but Gestapo methods.

"This supposed committee is synonymous to methods employed by the infamous Klu Klux Klan. We sure are not going to have one in West Warwick. Lets have the names!

Trash Put Out

"I have said many times that West Warwick is one of the nicest towns in the state and its disgusting to me to think that the people from outside of this town have to read such trash as put out in my absence. I notice that he

waited until I went on a vacation to do his jigs."

Mr. DeCiantis says that he was performing his duty as town solicitor when he demanded that a statement in writing be made by Eston Phillips of his purported betting with Walter Forsys.

DeCiantis confirmed testimony of Phillips, 29 of 21 Woodside Avenue, given during trial of his private complaint against Walter Forsys, 39 of 1590 Main Street, on a charge of threatening to kill Phillips.

Phillips had testified that he had retained DeCiantis as his attorney in October to try to force Forsys to pay him \$3100, which he allegedly won on horse bets and which Forsys refused to pay.

DeCiantis said Phillips went to his office on Oct. 24 and gave him a \$100 retainer for the case. At that time, in answer to his question, DeCiantis said, Phillips told him he had been to Police Chief Groleau about the civil case. DeCiantis then obtained a writ from the sheriff and it was served on Forsys the same day, in an action for debt on assumpsit for \$3100, DeCiantis said.

DeCiantis said he understood the chief made certain that the alleged bookie parlor on Main Street, Crompton, was closed.

The suit had not come up in court, DeCiantis said, when Phillips came to him again and told him he wanted to drop it and that Forsys had threatened to kill him.

Swear Out Threat

On hearing that threat, DeCiantis said, he told Phillips to go to Judge James W. Leighton of Fourth District Court and swear out a private complaint against Forsys charging him with making the threat. He said he made an appointment with the judge for Phillips, but that Phillips did not show up and there was delay before he did.

"I also told him I wanted him to go to the police and make a statement about the bet, or otherwise I wouldn't try his case," DeCiantis said. "Finally he did go." "I was the one who made sure this man allegedly operating a bookie place closed it up," DeCiantis declared.

Afflick, now attorney for Phillips, has declared that the law was not being enforced in the town, that DeCiantis had knowledge of the case on Oct. 24 and that Chief Groleau had a statement from Phillips more than three weeks before Dec. 9.

DeCiantis said Phillips came to him two days before trial on Dec. 5 of the private complaint of a threat to kill (on which Forsys was found guilty and for which he now is under \$2000 bond to keep the peace) and said he didn't want to "bother with it any more."

When Phillips last came to him, if he would testify against Forsys on the bookmaking charge and Phillips reportedly said he would.

State police arrested both Phillips and Forsys on Dec. 8 and the following day they were arraigned, Phillips on a charge of placing a bet and Forsys on a bookmaking charge. Both men pleaded innocent.

Leo McGowan, attorney for Forsys has filed a petition for permission to withdraw Forsys' innocent plea and to file special pleas. The petition is scheduled to come before Judge Leighton next Tuesday. Trial of the two men is set for Dec. 26 in West Warwick.

Afflick Hits

At DeCiantis

Evening Bulletin 12/21/52
Asks Why Solicitor
Left West Warwick
As Bookie Case Broke

Robert R. Afflick, West Warwick attorney who has charged that the law was not enforced in the town in the bookie case involving his bettor-client, Eston W. Phillips, and Walter Forsys, convicted bookie, today answered criticism by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and asked why DeCiantis was out of town when the story broke.

"If he notices that he was out of town when this whole thing broke, he should explain why he was out of town," Afflick said. "I understand he left town several days ahead of schedule. Why?"

DeCiantis, who returned from Miami late last week, had left Dec. 5 for the West Warwick High School Orange Bowl football game there. Afflick noted that Phillips' private complaint that Forsys had threatened to kill him when he asked payment of a \$3100 horse bet win came up for trial the day DeCiantis left. DeCiantis had previously been Phillips' lawyer and had him swear out the complaint, but Phillips switched lawyers and Afflick represented him at the trial.

Afflick, spokesman for an anonymous citizens' committee investigating gambling, which DeCiantis has said should come out in the open or be likened to the Ku Klux Klan Gestapo, said, "the solicitor's attempt to characterize the present citizens' committee with an infamous order of yesterday is the cheapest sort of demagoguery. He had better be careful. He might be surprised if and when he learns who was on the committee..."

"As a starter in carrying out my avowed intentions, I have this week requested an audience with the town council for the purpose of presenting to it all the evidence that I have in the Phillips-Forsys case. In the meantime, let him come clean and tell all of his connections with this case—not just half truths."

Afflick said it was the recommendation of the citizens committee not to answer the "personal attack" by DeCiantis, in order to keep the issue of the case and the solicitor's original connection with it clearly before the people. At insistence of friends, however, he said he gave the statement released today in a talk before a Christmas party for employees of Radio Lab, which he owns, last night in Tiogue Vista.

"The names of the people who have been meeting on the matter now before the court concerned with the obvious lack of law enforcement in the town, are being kept confidential for the reasons already given," Afflick said. "I personally would be violating a confidence if I revealed them. The town solicitor may not understand the meaning of such confidence, but perhaps the townspeople will. In any event, despite his screams, I will not break this confidence.

"The town solicitor misconstrues the reasons for the desire of the committee to remain anonymous for the present. It isn't because of fear, I assure him, certainly not fear of the town solicitor."

Noting that DeCiantis had said that "the people are entitled to live free of secret committees," Afflick asked, "Just what people is he talking about—the people from whom the committee is derived or the law breaker or town official who is derelict in his duty? The town solicitor knows that grand juries are composed of citizens and they operate secretly on occasion. Would he characterize our grand jury system or Gestapo or KKK?"

Denying that he is "an outsider," Afflick said he was born in West Warwick and left in 1941 to enter the service. He returned to the Valley after nearly six years of service in the U.S. Air Force, including overseas service with the Ninth Air Force in Europe.

"I took up residence in the Phoenix section of Coventry, about 40 feet outside of West Warwick," he said. "Recently I moved back to West Warwick. If this classifies me as an outsider, I, in all humility, accept such a title..."

Apprised of Afflick's statement, DeCiantis today said, "hiding behind a service record does not get this outsider anything. A real soldier, a real hero, a real man, does not talk the way that Mr. Afflick has talked in his statement about his record..."

"Mr. Afflick has already got a record in Coventry, where he attempted to do the same thing with the school committee, but they finally threw him out. The same thing will happen in West Warwick."

Superior Court's Pigeonholes

Endanger State's Shellfish

Prov. Journal 12/2/52
While Cases Gather Dust on Shelves for Years and Years Lawbreakers Undermine R.I. Resources

By STUART O. HALE

Rhode Island's marine resources are under predatory attack because the conservation laws of the state are laughed at with impunity by many fishermen.

The worldly wise along the waterfront advise: "Don't pay a district court fine; take an appeal to the Superior Court and that will be the end of it."

The advice is sound. A shellfish case appealed to a higher court frequently drops right out of sight. If it does come up for trial years later, the chances are good the evidence in the case may be gone or the witnesses no longer present.

There's everything to gain and nothing to lose. The fisherman's bondsman doesn't even tie up his hard cash.

The Providence Journal combed through the files of three Superior Courts, those of Providence and Bristol Counties, Kent County and Newport County, in an effort to find out how effective the state's marine conservation laws are.

The survey turned up 28 pending appeals, 22 of them from one to six years old. Of the group, only six were of 1952 vintage.

Most of the cases involve illegal dredging for quahaugs with a power boat, taking of undersize shellfish, shellfishing between sunset and sunrise or taking shellfish from polluted waters.

In most of the cases, district court judges found defendants guilty and assessed fines ranging from \$5 to \$50, plus costs. The defendants then entered appeals.

A bondsman stood up with each defendant, and with upraised hand pledged his real estate or personal property as surety if the defendant failed to keep his date with the higher court.

The bondsman's property was in

Continued on Page 26, Col. 1

Shellfish

Continued From Page One

no danger of attachment. The cases were assigned to a Superior Court calendar, but went no farther.

Grand Jury Indictments

Two grand jury indictments are on the list compiled by reporters. Both involve Warren B. Finn Jr., East Greenwich shellfish dealer, as defendant to charges of possession of undersize quahaugs. One case is nearly seven years old; the other, almost a year old.

On Jan. 29, 1946, Finn was indicted, pleaded innocent and was released in \$2000 bail. He was charged with possession of 300 quarts of undersize shellfish. His attorney, Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, filed numerous special motions, one involving a constitutional question. All papers in the case were sent to the State Supreme Court. In the years since, no further action has been taken.

On Dec. 13, 1951, Finn was adjudged probably guilty of possession of 166 quarts of undersize shellfish and bound over to the Kent County grand jury. He again was indicted in January of this year. Again DeCiantis filed a handful of special motions and a petition to certify the case to the Supreme Court on constitutional grounds.

Successful as Counsel

This case still remains in the Superior Court files. DeCiantis' petition remains unanswered, neither approved nor rejected.

DeCiantis has been especially successful in fighting the state's shellfish laws for his clients. Recently he succeeded in upsetting practices of the state fish and game wardens in enforcing the law prohibiting shellfishing in polluted water. He successfully contended that the state director of health could not delegate his authority for enforcing the law to employees of another state division.

Among the bondsmen, Warren B. Finn Sr. of East Greenwich and his brother, Walter W., have raised their hands frequently to afford

surety that a shellfisherman will show up for Superior Court trial. Francis B. Manchester, Tiverton shellfish dealer, is listed as bondsman in some of the dredger cases on the east side of the bay.

No Old Providence Cases

No old cases were found in the pending files in Providence. This court also led the others in bringing appeal cases to trial. In the past three years it has handled 19 current shellfish cases, 12 of them in 1951, while Kent County Superior Court and Newport County Superior Court have each acted on five.

In the Kent County Superior Court files in East Greenwich, these old cases were found:

Henry Price, 57 Queen Street, East Greenwich—taking quahaugs from polluted water. Assignment day in Superior Court, Mar. 27, 1950.

Joseph P. Northup, Main Street, East Greenwich—taking shellfish from a polluted area. Called in Superior Court Oct. 27, 1950 and continued one week.

Joseph P. Northup, Main Street, East Greenwich—shellfishing between sunset and sunrise. Called in Superior Court Oct. 27, 1950, and continued one week.

Albert M. Huftalen, 91 Detroit Avenue, Warren—dredging. Assignment day in Superior Court, May 24, 1948.

Frank Souza, 106 Milton Street, North Tiverton—dredging. Assignment day, May 24, 1948.

Manuel Souza, 106 Hilton Street,

North Tiverton—dredging. Assignment day, May 24, 1948.

Robert Carr, Highland Road, Tiverton—dredging. Assigned to October, 1948, Superior Court session.

Robert Walsh, Bristol—fishing without a license. Assignment day, Oct. 25, 1948.

George Bennett, Water Street, East Greenwich—taking shellfish from a polluted area. Called in Superior Court Oct. 27, 1950, and continued one week.

George Bennett, Water Street, East Greenwich—fishing between sunset and sunrise. Called Oct. 27, 1950 and continued one week.

Leo J. DesRoches, 288 Manton Avenue, Providence—undersize quahaugs. Called Oct. 27, 1950, and continued one week.

Francis F. Healy, 508 Main Street, East Greenwich—taking shellfish from polluted water. Assignment day, Jan. 22, 1951.

Newport Court Files

In the Newport Superior Court files, these were turned up:

John August Borkman, 22 Pierce Avenue, Tiverton—dredging. Called in Superior Court Mar. 5, 1947, and continued one week.

Frank William Helger, Riverview Avenue, Tiverton—dredging. Called Mar. 10, 1947, and continued one week.

Raymond Henry Helger, Main Road, Tiverton; John Jesse Medeiros, 33 Freeborn Avenue, Portsmouth; Joseph Michael Francis, Freeborn Avenue, Portsmouth; Lars Arthur Fahlen, East Main Road, Portsmouth; Edgar Asa Gray Jr., Riverside Drive, Tiverton; Joseph Medeiros, 33 Freeborn Avenue, Portsmouth, and Joseph Moniz, Randolph Avenue, Tiverton—defendants in seven simultaneous dredging cases. Cases assigned to first jury day in October, 1946.

While a defendant is not required

to put up a cash bond when he takes an appeal, the appeal can cost the state wasted effort and money.

High Storage Costs

After the raid in 1946 on the Finn farm in East Greenwich, wardens placed their evidence—300 quarts of small shellfish—in bags which ultimately went into a freezer room at a cold storage plant in Providence. The years rolled by and cold storage bills mounted over \$100. The case showed no evidence of coming to life so the shellfish were destroyed in the presence of witnesses.

In December, 1951, the Newport County Superior Court dismissed an appeal case charging Manuel J. Ferris of Water Street, Portsmouth, with possession of two short lobsters. Ferris had appeared in district court on July 26, 1944—seven years earlier.

The lobsters in the case rested in a Tiverton freezer plant locker for several years and were finally thrown away after locker rentals amounted to enough to buy a dozen full-size lobster dinners.

(The salient facts in the foregoing

article were presented to Attorney General William F. Powers for comment. His response will be included in a second article tomorrow.)

Afflick Requests Board near Him

On Bookie Case

Prov. Journal 12/2/52
The Jan. 13 regular meeting of the West Warwick Town Council today loomed as a lively one, after receipt by the council at a special meeting last night of a formal request from Robert R. Afflick, attorney, for permission to meet with it to tell all he knows about a recent bookie case in town.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said only that "any citizen has a right to appear before the council at any time." He said Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb will be instructed to write Afflick to that effect.

Afflick is counsel for Eston W. Phillips of Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, who on Dec. 5 was successful in his private complaint in Fourth District Court, which charged that Walter Forsy, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, threatened to kill him after refusing to pay him a \$3100 horse bet win he had made in Forsy's bookie parlor on Main Street, Crompton.

Afflick's letter said he wanted to give full details about the gambling incident to the council.

W. Warwick Gives Tax Exemption

To Dyeing Concern

Prov. Journal 12/2/52
The West Warwick Town Council, at a special meeting, last night granted a 10-year tax exemption to Clyde Piece Dye Works, Inc., a firm which plans to lease part of Clyde Print Works, sprawling plant which has been shut down since a year ago last June.

Charles J. Bourgault, attorney for the new firm, explained in a petition that the company plans to install machinery worth \$100,000 in part of the big plant for the purpose of engaging in the business of jig dyeing.

He said Clyde Piece Dye Works has been incorporated in Rhode Island and that Louis Danello of Manchester, Conn., is head of a group backing the enterprise.

The firm expects to provide immediate employment for 40 persons, eventually increasing to 100 persons, Bourgault said. It will recruit employees locally and pay the prevailing wage rate in the industry, Bourgault said.

The new firm will lease space from Allied Textile Printers, Inc., which operated its Perennial Division dye plant in the big mill until last year and has been liquidating its equipment since.

Powers for New Shellfish Laws

Providence Journal 12/24/52
Says Assembly Must Plug Loopholes and Increase Penalties

By STUART O. HALE

Attorney General William E. Powers says flatly the state's shellfish laws must be changed by the General Assembly to plug loopholes and increase penalties.

"I hope this can be done at the coming session of the General Assembly," he said in an interview.

"Two things must be done," he said. "The laws must be strengthened. I have talked with Governor Roberts about that. And secondly, every case must receive prompt attention from the Attorney General's Department and be pressed vigorously through the courts."

Powers was asked for comment on the results of a survey by Providence Journal reporters which disclosed a backlog of appeal cases awaiting action in the Superior Courts of Kent and Newport Counties — some of them going back to 1946.

"There are no old shellfish appeal cases in the Providence and Bristol County Superior Court," he said. "They have all been cleaned out. But there are backlogs in the other courts."

He said that when he took office in 1949 his staff set to work to clear up pending appeal cases of all kinds. The major effort was made in Providence because the great bulk of cases existed there.

Reporters found during the survey that the attorney general's statement, as far as shellfish cases are concerned, is accurate. No old appeal cases were found in the files at the Providence County Courthouse. Kent County Superior Court files produced 12, Newport Superior Court files contain nine, while one Kent County case going back to 1946 rests in the State Supreme Court files.

The last involves Warren B. Finn Jr., East Greenwich shellfish dealer indicted by the grand jury in 1946 for possession of 300 quarts of undersize shellfish. Finn was indicted a second time last January and that case still remains in the Kent County Superior Court, although Finn's attorney has filed motions on constitutional grounds designed to bring the case before the Supreme Court also.

Attorney General Powers said he couldn't explain the delay in reaching a decision in the 1946 Finn case up to the time he became attorney general. Since that time, he said the case possibly has been neglected because efforts have been concentrated in keeping abreast of current cases and on the Providence court backlog.

"Right now," he said, "Archie Smith (an assistant attorney general) has been assigned to study the two Finn cases. His job will be to reach a decision on what to do with the 1946 case, whether it can be prosecuted now or whether we should concentrate on the more recent case."

He was asked whether it was possible for lawyers to win delays for their clients in appeal cases from members of the attorney general's department.

"Yes," he said. "That was possible once. There was plenty of it when I came in. But that's not the case any more."

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Roberts Promised Aid On Home Rule Measure

Providence Journal 12/24/52
Solicitors of 20 Cities, Towns Agree to

Draft Bill for Submission to Assembly

Solicitors of about 20 Rhode Island cities and towns agreed at the State House yesterday to help Governor

draft a legislative act that would give broadened powers of self government to their communities.

The governor called attention to the fact that the Rhode Island Supreme Court has ruled, in an advisory opinion, that such an act is necessary to confer home rule powers on cities and towns that do not adopt new charters under the home rule amendment to the state constitution.

Roberts named Daniel J. Murray of Jamestown to head a committee charged with preparing a draft bill

for consideration by all the solicitors at a future meeting. Others appointed to the committee were James O. Watts of Narragansett, Richard F. Canning of Cranston, Charles H. Anderson of Coventry and William E. McCabe of Providence.

After the governor asked that the draft bill be placed in his hands for submission to the legislature by the middle of January, the solicitors agreed to send their own suggestions for the bill to Murray by Jan. 5.

A general enabling act of the type the governor asked for was submitted to the last session of the

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Home Rule

Continued From Page One

legislature by Sen. Dion A. Archambault (D-West Warwick) and Sen. George Roche (D-Coventry), but it did not pass.

During a discussion presided over by Murray, who is legal counsel for the Rhode Island Home Rule Association, Frank Capuccio of Westerly made a strong plea for passage this year of the Archambault-Roche bill, with whatever amendments the solicitors thought necessary.

Capuccio said there already are general enabling acts on the books, but they need to be brought up to date and expanded to conform with the needs of modern living.

Judge John C. Burke of Newport said an amendment he favored would be one giving to cities and towns the power to condemn land for construction of sewage treatment plants. Failure of the last General Assembly session to pass such an act, he said, had set Newport back a year and half in its anti-pollution program.

Voices Warning

A warning that the proposed type of legislation might lessen the initiative of cities and towns in seeking new charters was voiced by Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick. This view was disputed by several other lawyers.

Burke said the solicitors must be careful "that we don't circumscribe any of the rights that have been given to us under the home rule amendment." He said he didn't subscribe 100 per cent to the advisory opinion of the Supreme Court and that he believed that opinion might be altered if an actual case involving the constitutional amendment were to be argued before the court.

Robert O'Hare, an official of the Home Rule Association, said that in his opinion there was no danger that any act the legislature might pass could diminish the force of the amendment.

Cites Complexities

In his opening statement to the group, Roberts said Rhode Island has been praised for and has reason to be proud of its home rule amendment, but he added that "the complexities of the problem of legislative home rule are multitudinous."

He asked for thoughtful and serious consideration in the drafting of a new home rule measure, stating that "the orderly processes of municipal government depend upon its being as workable as it is possible to make it."

Roberts assured the solicitors of stenographic services and office space during their study. He asked them to call on him for information and advice. Also available for advice, he said, would be Robert O'Hare of the Home Rule Association and Robert Boland of the Rhode Island Public Expenditures Council.

School Board Applauds Boosters' Plan For Scholarship Fund at West Warwick

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53

A proposal by the West Warwick Boosters' Club, Inc. to set up a college scholarship fund for high school students with the major portion of surplus funds collected for the Orange Bowl football trip last December was warmly approved last night by the town school committee.

The plan, which was outlined to the committee by Edgar Boisvert, president of the club, would provide four \$1000 grants to be awarded—one a year—in 1953, 1954, 1955 and 1956.

go to an outstanding graduate of the high school to finance at least two years of college education.

Representatives from the Natick School PTA also attended the meeting in the town hall. They were assured that consideration would be given to installing bubbler-type drinking fountains and modernizing lighting at the school when a special school survey committee assembles at the town hall Thursday evening. Present for the PTA were Alexander De Martino, Nicholas Cornella and Cornelia and Albert Muschiano.

Administrators of the fund, according to Boisvert, would be Dr. Raoul Cartier and Roland Boisvert, treasurer and co-treasurer, respectively, of the club. Scholarship recipients would be chosen by a point system, whereby eligible students would be assessed on their class work, extra-curricular activities, financial situation of their families, etc.

In addition to the \$4000 set aside for this fund, a remaining balance from the Bowl drive of \$691, would be used for Booster Club finances. Of this amount, \$300 would go toward defraying expenses of parents' nights, banquets and homecomings sponsored by the club. The other \$391 would revert into a general booster fund.

Other matters presented by the boosters group last night requested an increase in sports activities for girl students at the high school; organization of a baseball team at the junior high school, an earmarking in the overall school budget of athletic expenditures, a decision on whether the committee intended to retain the warm-up suits ordered for members of the Bowl-bound football team; and correction of a check from radio station WPRO representing receipts from sponsors of the Bowl broadcast.

Vincent J. Lukowicz, committee chairman, said that a physical education instructor was to be hired specifically for girls starting with the fall term.

The chairman promised that a breakdown of athletic expenditures would be made in the budget submitted for the school department.

Lukowicz advised Boisvert that the committee would have to confer with the director of athletics, John E. McCarthy, before reaching a decision on whether to retain, and thereby pay for, the warm-up suits. Boisvert said in the event the suits are not to be purchased by the school department, the boosters would pay for them and give the suits to members of the football team who used them.

The WPRO check, written for \$536.95, was made out to the school committee, whereas it was included in projected Booster Club income for the bowl campaign. Lukowicz said he would confer with the town solicitor before turning the sum over to the club, but added that he had no doubt the solicitor, Michael DeCiantis, would approve the transaction.

Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, school superintendent, reported to the committee that a course in "language arts in the elementary school" would be initiated Feb. 10 at the junior high school. To be open to teachers in the school system, the course would be given Tuesday afternoons at 4:30 by Miss Doris Haselhurst, a critic teacher at the Sackett Street School in Providence and a member of the extension faculty at the Rhode Island College of Education. Two credits will be gained by class members toward state teachers certification.

A leave of absence for the length

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of his time in service was granted to Arthur De Tonancourt, former third grade instructor at the Cowesett Avenue School, who has been a member of an officers' candidate class at Newport Naval Base since Jan. 2.

Approved by the three-man committee, on which Lorenzo Bergeron and Dr. Richard Duffy also serve, were school bills for the past month totaling \$3025 and recreation fund bills amounting to \$118.03.

West Warwick Bet Trial Is Off Again

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
Trial of Walter S. Forsy, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, on a charge of receiving a horse bet, was continued yesterday in district court at Warwick, making the sixth continuance of the case since the original arraignment on Dec. 9.

A motion to amend the original warrant to change the date of the alleged offense from Oct. 23 to Oct. 22 was made by the state.

Judge James W. Leighton then granted the request of Forsy's attorney, Leo P. McGowan, for a continuance to next Tuesday in Warwick.

The trial, which has developed since a West Warwick horse bettor's contention that Forsy welshed on a \$3100 payoff, has been continued back and forth between district court sittings in Warwick and West Warwick, at times so the defendant could prepare special pleas and other times at the request of the state.

Such continuance requests since Forsy's original arraignment Dec. 9 have been about equally divided between the state and defense attorneys.

McGowan yesterday claimed that the defendant's rights were "prejudiced." He said he was "taken by surprise" by the state's motion, made by Alfred E. Motta, state special counsel.

He said defense of the case depends on proving specific races and horses, and he argued the state had ample opportunity before the trial to amend the warrant.

Motta questioned any "surprise" or "prejudice," saying the state was "going to vigorously prosecute the case."

Angrily, the defense attorney informed the judge, "I'm not stalling for time." He said he wanted the state to know that he was going to "vigorously defend" his client.

Seated in the courtroom was Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, whose original private complaint that Forsy had threatened to kill him after allegedly refusing to pay him a \$3100 horse bet win precipitated the action by state police.

Phillips has been charged by state police with placing a bet. He has admitted sufficient evidence to convict and has appealed to Superior Court a \$100 fine imposed by Judge Leighton.

Forsy last month was found guilty by Judge Leighton on Phillips' private complaint and is free under bond of \$2000 to keep the peace for 11 months.

Fazzano Backs DeCiantis, Chief Council Head Defends W. Warwick Officials At Hectic Meeting

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
Pawtuxet Valley Office, 13 Washington Street, West Warwick

Telephone VA 1-8200 VA 1-7067

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night championed Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and Police Chief Groleau, at a hectic council meeting marked by heated exchanges between Fazzano and Robert R. Afflick, attorney and spokesman for an anonymous anti-gambling citizens' committee.

Fazzano blasted Afflick and backed the two officials unqualifiedly after Afflick asked whether the council, which appoints them, approved their parts in preliminaries to the case of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, bettor who has testified in court that Walter Forsy, 39, of Crompton, welshed on a \$3100 horse bet win he made in October.

Specifically, Afflick said he wanted to know whether the council approved the fact that DeCiantis, while town solicitor, accepted Phillips as his client to try to recover the \$3100 by court action. He was unable to say much about Groleau, as Fazzano insisted repeatedly that he wanted to have nothing to do with an anonymous committee and that the matter was not properly before the council, since state police charges are pending against both men in court.

Scoring Afflick for "degrading the name of West Warwick in the eyes of the state over a single bookie case," Fazzano pointed out that the council has given Groleau a vote of confidence and declared that DeCiantis "is a man of honesty and integrity, with a long record of public service, and he has probably done more to stamp out gambling in the town than any other person."

W. Warwick Police Ask 40-Hour Week, Blue Cross Service

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
West Warwick police last night asked the town council to institute a 40-hour week for the force, as well as provide town-paid Blue Cross, including surgical and physician service.

The council took the request under advisement for consideration in the budget to be presented at the March town meeting. Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said a preliminary estimate indicated between \$20,000-\$25,000 would be needed to meet the request.

Relief Is Sought By Water Unit

Kent County

Provt. Journal 1/15/53
Authority Says Ruin Is
Imminent If Rates
Cannot Be Increased

The Kent County Water Authority, which raised its rates 150 per cent in January, 1951, shortly after it took over three private water firms, and then had them rolled back by action of the General Assembly and the Rhode Island Supreme Court, is foundering on the financial rocks, authority members said last night.

About 50 senators, representatives and town and city officials from communities served by the authority, who met in its headquarters in West Warwick, heard authority leaders admit they had made a mistake in not consulting them on the raise, and appeal for their help.

Bolstered by financial and engineering experts, authority heads painted a black picture of the condition of the water properties and water supply, and asked an end to fighting over rates and the start of a unified effort to win approval of the State Public Utilities Administration for higher rates.

Compromise Proposed

Edwin H. Arnold, Coventry representative on the authority, suggested as a compromise that agreement be reached that the authority should receive its requested rates for a three-year trial period to put it on its feet. At the end of that time, the rates could be reconsidered, Arnold said.

He declared that the authority is on the verge of defaulting on its bond payments this June and that, if it does, its credit and that of the state will be given a black eye in bond circles.

The authority issued \$2,062,500 in bonds to buy its property. At the time, under the 1946 act creating it, the authority had power to set its own rates, but after consumer protests, the Supreme Court and it subject to public utility control.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, who led the fight against the authority's rate boost that resulted in the rollback, suggested that towns and cities might help the authority by declaring a moratorium on payments in lieu of taxes which are due them. The authority owes the communities served a total of \$76,561 which it has been unable to pay.

Calls Boost "Too Rugged"

DeCiantis declared that he still feels that the proposed rate increase, which is the same as the authority put into effect in 1951, is "too rugged." The authority now charges \$15 for a minimum of 50,000 gallons of water. It seeks to raise it to \$15 for only 20,000.

He said he would like an answer why an engineer who made up a bond buyers' brochure describing the authority property and condition when it was trying to sell bonds had painted it in glowing terms. He said the brochure noted that the authority had a good water supply and equipment, and that its rates were sufficient to retire bonds and permit operation.

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Kent County Water Authority Sees Ruin Ahead If Rates Are Not Hiked

Continued From Page One

Bondholders must have relied on the brochure, he said.

Col. Patrick H. Quinn, authority chairman, then said the engineer now is dead and asked for other questions. Arnold said he knew the answer to DeCiantis' question, but did not give it. He successfully suggested that all the officials submit questions to be answered by the authority in written form and that the whole matter be discussed at another meeting.

DeCiantis declared that the consumers ought to know why, when the brochure set out such good conditions, that the authority now finds itself in bad shape.

"You can't tell the ordinary man who knows those reports were made and now say it's an obsolete system—the reverse from being a good purchase to a very bad purchase," he said. "I won't take the responsibility of raising the rates for three years at 150 per cent. The people in the town can't and won't pay it. I'll do anything to co-operate properly with a reasonable rate. When people pay more for water than for taxes, it's not right. There ought to be some way of refinancing this company."

Would Forgive Taxes

DeCiantis said he would be willing to go before the taxpayers in

his town and ask them to forgive the amount due the town from the authority, if it would help bring about reasonable rates.

"You've got to let the people know," he said, "if negligence on the part of the engineer placed the board in the light it has in the eyes of the people of this community. I don't believe any group of men can make an agreement to pay a 150 per cent raise for three years. I'm against it. We can co-operate, but we've got to make the question clear to the people."

Town solicitor Charles H. Anderson of Coventry suggested that the authority might reduce the rate requested and work out a trial system at a somewhat higher rate over a five-year period.

Default Seen Disastrous

Daniel H. Morrissey, representative of bond houses, noting that the authority is not going to be able to pay the principal payment on its bonds, said that bondholders throughout the country bought the bonds in good faith and a default will not do the credit of the authority or state any good. Bondholders would have to take steps to protect their interests, he said.

When the bonds were sold, Morrissey said, the buyers understood that, in good faith, the authority had General Assembly authorization to fix its own rates. He urged

the officials to take a calm view of the problem and to reach an agreeable solution.

Morrissey said he does not believe users should have to pay for capital improvements over a short time, but that sale of more bonds to finance needed improvements, including completion of a tie-in with Scituate reservoir, cannot be made while the authority is operating at a deficit. If enough money can be raised to put it back in the black, then capital improvements could be financed by further bond issues, he said.

Polluted Reservoir

Because of its inadequate water supply from Carr's Pond, West Greenwich, the authority has had to pump water from a polluted open reservoir at Fiskeville, Arnold said. There is one jagged main running through woods 10 or 12 miles to Carr's Pond, he added, citing the need for completion of the Scituate Reservoir tie-in.

Arnold explained that the authority has pipe laid from Scituate Reservoir to Fiskeville Reservoir, but a pumping station must be built.

Describing the importance of making the Scituate connection to assure adequate supply, the Coventry representative said Carr's Pond is 48 inches down and has never been so low. If it is not up by June 1, the area will be in a tough spot, he said.

If the authority defaults on its bonds, the financing of future bonds will be a fraction of a per cent higher in cost, he warned.

"Nothing like that happens in financial circles without it getting around," he added. "If we should default, God knows what will happen. The bondholders can appeal to the courts."

Borrowing Attempted

He said the authority had tried to borrow more money to make capital improvements, including the Scituate tie-in and a needed new standpipe to replace a condemned one in Arctic and another in the Cowesett section of East Greenwich where a 50-year lease on a site will expire in 1954 or 1955.

The Cowesett standpipe is inadequate in size now and a new one will have to be placed on a different site, according to Arnold and Quinn.

"No banking house would take our bonds when we're on the verge of a default," Arnold said. "That can't be done unless our revenue is increased so we'll have a reserve. We're two and a half years behind now and, if we get the rates we've asked for, it would take that long to get even and pay the bills we owe."

Arnold said the authority wanted the cities and towns involved, West Warwick, Coventry, Warwick, East Greenwich, West Greenwich and parts of Scituate and Cranston, to know the problem and to try to prevent a long, drawn-out hearing before the public utilities commissioner on the rate raise.

Fire Hazards Cited

Both he and George B. Salter of Warwick said they hesitated to think what would have happened had the recent bad fires in Arctic and Apponaug occurred during summer when water is less adequate. Protection of health and property of residents demands improvements, they said.

At one time last summer, according to Arthur Levalley, authority superintendent, water underground at Fiskeville reservoir was down to four inches and a fire in Hope or Fiskeville would have been disastrous.

Salter recalled that last summer he had advised fire chiefs to be prepared to count on ponds and other water sources.

Saying that he liked a pay-as-you-go basis, the Warwick representative explained that he was one of the men who insisted on higher rates to make the needed improvements.

"But we're here for the best interests of the people," he added. "We made plans and fought for them. I see no point in fighting you people. I appeal to you for advice and help. I will say this is what we should have done in the first place. Insurance rates might be affected. Something must be done or we're headed for disaster."

Increased Costs Told

Thomas Freeman, board member for East Greenwich, cited increased costs of pipes and fittings, ranging up to nearly 300 per cent in some cases. As Albert V. Wood, authority manager, recalled that rates had not been raised for 37 years, Freeman also pointed out that labor costs have increased from 42 cents an hour in 1929 to \$1.46 an hour today.

One official, Sen. John T. Godfrey of West Greenwich, questioned the effect on his town of DeCiantis' proposal to forgive the payments due the towns and cities. He pointed out his town has no authority water customers and the \$1199 due it is considerable, since it has only \$35,000 a year on which to operate.

The authority owes other communities and fire districts as follows: West Warwick, \$24,794; Warwick, \$11,874; East Greenwich, \$9168; East Greenwich Fire District, \$572; Coventry Fire District, \$605; Scituate, \$253; Cranston, \$4168; Coventry, \$23,490; Harris Lighting District, \$105; Washington Lighting District, \$301; Tiogue Lighting District, \$30.

Wood said that at the end of the authority's fiscal year last June 30, its expenses exceeded income by \$30,000. Up to last Nov. 30 in the current fiscal year, there was a loss of \$14,000, he said.

The authority is supposed to set aside \$800-\$900 each month for interest and bond retirement, but can't do so and is \$30,000 short, he declared.

West Warwick Policemen Ask 40-Hour Week

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
Request Council Cut
54-Hour Schedule;
No Pay Hike Sought

The new West Warwick Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, last night asked the town council to institute a 40-hour week at the same wages and provide for paid Blue Cross membership, including surgical and physician service.

Sgt. Joseph F. Pontarelli, chairman of a delegation of police present, asked the council to grant whatever it can, consistent with the financial condition of the town.

Men now work about 52 hours a week night and 54 hours on day shifts, Pontarelli said, whereas many communities in the state have a 40-hour week for police. West Warwick is far behind in the matter of working hours in comparison with other communities of similar population, he declared.

Favorable action will increase the enthusiasm of present policemen for their duties and attract new men of the highest caliber, Pontarelli said.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said the councilmen as citizens "appreciate the job the police department has done and we'll give full co-operation insofar as we are able to do so in bettering your working conditions."

He said the shorter work week and the other requests would probably cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year. Five or six new men would have to be added to the force, he said.

The council named Armand Guertin, Arctic jeweler, town chairman of the Metropolitan Traffic Safety Organization. Guertin is president of the Narragansett Sports Car Club.

An application for a pool table license at Champ's pool parlor, 811 Main Street, was granted in the name of Roger H. Le Blanc of 36 Summit Avenue. Fazzano noted the place had changed management since a recent state police bookie raid.

Dr. John A. Mack, health officer, filed a report saying he had found no health menace existing at the Crampton Grain Company establishment in the former Potter grain mill, Bridge Street. Residents had complained last month that it devalued property and was a nuisance and health menace.

Dr. Mack reported that he had found about 500 three-day-old chickens kept in cages in a clean brooder room and that there was very little odor in the room and none outside. Incubators are to be moved to the plant from a Crampton plant where there has been no complaint, he said. The report was filed, with a remark by Fazzano that, if anything further develops, the council will investigate it.

In other business, the council:

Granted the Narragansett Electric Co. permission to install a steel ventilator stack on Washington Street in Arctic in front of J. J. Newberry Co. store to ventilate an underground transformer.

Granted transfers of Class B liquor and victualling licenses from Hermenegilde J. Nadeau to Clifford J. Lamoureux for the White Front Cafe, 1304 Main Street.

Authorized the American Women's Social Club to hold a dance Jan. 24 at the Sportsmen's Club, Bridge Street.

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Instructed the three wardens who can do so to attend an elm disease conference to be held by the R.I. Department of Agriculture at the Providence Journal Company auditorium on Jan. 28 from 1 to 5 p.m.

Filed a preliminary report by Regaliere on the Dec. 20 fire at the Yvon Archambault Block, Arctic, saying it is still being debated whether to repair or demolish the burned part of the building.

At request of Frank Lachapelle voted to ask Governor Roberts to consider placing a West Warwick representative on a coming special committee to study public transportation problems.

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Approved transfer of a Class A package store license at Brookside Avenue Package Store, Arctic, from Elynore M. Senerchia to Elynore M. Gammino.

AD WARWICK 3rd Edit 2
WARWICK MEETINGS 2

TONIGHT
Warwick advisory committee of Children's Friend and Service, annual dinner and election, Great House, Hillsgrove, 8:45.
St. Rita's Circle, Daughters of Isabella, home of Marie Anne Richard, Oakland Beach Avenue, 8.
Warwick police commission, police station, 8.
Kiwanis Club, Dreyfus Frog Farm, Hoxsie, 6:30.
Perseverance Lodge, IOOF, Odd Fellows' Hall, Apponaug, 8.
Dorr Council, Sons and Daughters of Liberty, Odd Fellows' Hall, Lakewood, 8.
Robert T. Johnson Unit, VFW, auxiliary, Memorial Hall, Lakewood, 8.
Warwick Council, K. of C., Hoxsie Community Club, 8.
Shore Chapter of Gold Star Mothers, Legion Hall, Lakewood, 8.
Women's Guild of Greenwood Community Church, Presbyterian, church rooms, 8.
Nausaulet PTA, school, 8.
Lippitt PTA, school, 8.
Kent County Squadron, C.A.P., national guard banar, Hillsgrove, 7:30.

West Warwick Policemen Ask 40-Hour Week

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
Request Council Cut
54-Hour Schedule;
No Pay Hike Sought

The new West Warwick Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police, last night asked the town council to institute a 40-hour week at the same wages and provide for paid Blue Cross membership, including surgical and physician service.

Sgt. Joseph F. Pontarelli, chairman of a delegation of police present, asked the council to grant whatever it can, consistent with the financial condition of the town.

Men now work about 52 hours a week night and 54 hours on day shifts, Pontarelli said, whereas many communities in the state have a 40-hour week for police. West Warwick is far behind in the matter of working hours in comparison with other communities of similar population, he declared.

Favorable action will increase the enthusiasm of present policemen for their duties and attract new men of the highest caliber, Pontarelli said.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said the councilmen as citizens "appreciate the job the police department has done and we'll give full co-operation insofar as we are able to do so in bettering your working conditions."

He said the shorter work week and the other requests would probably cost between \$20,000 and \$25,000 a year. Five or six new men would have to be added to the force, he said.

The council named Armand Guertin, Arctic jeweler, town chairman of the Metropolitan Traffic Safety Organization. Guertin is president of the Narragansett Sports Car Club.

An application for a pool table license at Champ's pool parlor, 811 Main Street, was granted in the name of Roger H. Le Blanc of 36 Summit Avenue. Fazzano noted the place had changed management since a recent state police bookie raid.

Dr. John A. Mack, health officer, filed a report saying he had found no health menace existing at the Crampton Grain Company establishment in the former Potter grain mill, Bridge Street. Residents had complained last month that it devalued property and was a nuisance and health menace.

Dr. Mack reported that he had found about 500 three-day-old chickens kept in cages in a clean brooder room and that there was very little odor in the room and none outside. Incubators are to be moved to the plant from a Crampton plant where there has been no complaint, he said. The report was filed, with a remark by Fazzano that, if anything further develops, the council will investigate it.

In other business, the council:

Granted the Narragansett Electric Co. permission to install a steel ventilator stack on Washington Street in Arctic in front of J. J. Newberry Co. store to ventilate an underground transformer.

Granted transfers of Class B liquor and victualling licenses from Hermenegilde J. Nadeau to Clifford J. Lamoureux for the White Front Cafe, 1304 Main Street.

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AD WARWICK 3rd Edit 2
WARWICK MEETINGS 2

WANTS GAMING DATA
Police Chief Groleau of West Warwick has instructed his men to notify him immediately of any gambling activity they find on their patrols, it was learned yesterday. *PROV. JOURNAL 1/15/53*
In an order to the force, effective Jan. 15, Chief Groleau instructed the men to make a report to him in writing immediately whenever they notice any gambling action.

Fazzano Charges Afflick Actions 'Degrading' Town

Evening Bulletin Nov 53

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night championed Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and Police Chief Groleau at a hectic council meeting marked by heated exchanges between Fazzano and Robert R. Afflick, attorney and spokesman for an anonymous anti-gambling citizens' committee.

Fazzano blasted Afflick and backed the two officials unqualifiedly after Afflick asked whether the council, which appoints them, approved their parts in preliminaries to the case of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of Woodside Avenue, West Warwick bettor who has testified in court that Walter Forsy, 39, of Crompton, wrenched on a \$3100 horse bet win he made in October.

Specifically, Afflick said he wanted to know whether the council approved the fact that DeCiantis, while town solicitor, accepted Phillips as his client to try to recover the \$3100 by court action. He was unable to say much about Groleau, as Fazzano insisted repeatedly that he wanted to have nothing to do with an anonymous committee and that the matter was not properly before the council, since state police charges are pending against both men in court.

Scoring Afflick for "degrading the name of West Warwick in the eyes of the state over a single bookie case," Fazzano pointed out that the council has given Groleau a vote of confidence and declared that DeCiantis "is a man of honesty and integrity, with a long record of public service, and he has probably done more to stamp out gambling in the town than any other person."

Says Discussion 'Improper'
Although Afflick said he had checked with Presiding Justice G. Frederick Frost of Superior Court and been told that he could properly bring the matter before the town council, Fazzano asserted that, although he has high respect for the judge, he thought as an attorney it was improper to engage in public discussion of the facts of cases pending in court.

Fazzano said that DeCiantis, on his return from Florida last month, had explained in the press that, before taking Phillips case, he had asked him whether he had reported the gambling to police and Phillips said he had.

Regarding Groleau's telling afflick and Phillips while DeCiantis was in Florida that he wanted to wait for legal advice before moving against both men, Fazzano said he had advised Groleau he was right in wanting to wait for advice.

It was after Groleau told Afflick he wanted to wait that Afflick and Phillips went to state police, who then arrested both Phillips and Forsy, charging one with placing a bet and the other with accepting it.

With Forsy and a large number of his friends from Crompton listening in the packed council chamber, Afflick said he didn't intend to discuss the cases now pending in court "except as they are preliminary to the actual time of commission of the offense" and the court trials.

When Fazzano said he didn't understand, Afflick said he intended to talk of preliminaries to the District Court trial of a private complaint by Phillips last month that Forsy threatened to kill him over the bet, after refusing to pay him. (Forsy was found guilty on that charge by Judge James W. Leighton and placed under \$2000 bond to keep the peace.)

Fazzano then berated afflick, saying, "these articles in the press served no purpose than to degrade the town in the eyes of the state and unfairly point to one bookie case."

"With reference to Chief Groleau, we have given him a vote of confidence and not for political reasons. No man could take the job and guarantee there would be no bookmaking in town. Regarding DeCiantis, I have known him since I was a kid. I was introduced to him by a judge of the Superior Court who set him up as an example for me before I went to law school. I served under Attorney General John Nolan and he taught me what the real Mike DeCiantis was like and the good job he did for the people of the state. He has been praised by the courts of the state and is a man of character, integrity and honesty."

He continued, "I will not stand for the attempted purpose of using this council chamber to degrade the character of a citizen who has done as much as any one person for the people of the town. He made a statement in the press. It was clear and forthright and, to me, needs no further explanation. And he told me several days before he left that he was going to Florida."

Fazzano said he had spent three hours with DeCiantis before the last election, when he first ran for office, and reached an agreement with him "on how we stood on the proposition of people who wanted to gamble. We had an understanding and shook hands on it that there would be no gambling. I'd stake my reputation on the word of Mr. DeCiantis."

"If the citizens' committee makes itself known," he added, "and says this is going on and this is the proof, it will get 1000 per cent cooperation. As long as I'm president of the town council, there'll be no gestapo type organizations. Book-making is to be condemned as against the law, but it's not like the Mafia or Murder, Inc., and there's no need to rumor that people might not be safe. I have no respect for the way they make a living, but have no fear they're going to go around shooting cops or decent citizens if they get anything against them."

At one point, Fazzano referred to the incident as "a lousy little bookie case that you'll have as long as you have race tracks in the country." He added he does not condone booking, but said, "this has been blown up to such proportions that it has become ridiculous."

Afflick protested, "It's not one lousy little bookie case. A man's life has been threatened. I haven't been received here as a citizen should."

"Certainly, I'm mad," Fazzano said, "and anyone would be when he sees an attempt to besmirch and degrade a person, whether he be Joe Smith or Michael DeCiantis, who is trying to do the right thing."

Afflick asked whether Fazzano remembered his calling him and saying he would like to speak in Groleau's behalf at a council meeting where the chief was called in. Fazzano said he remembered and was amazed "as you had criticized him for not making an arrest."

"Don't believe everything you see in the press," said Afflick. "I said if the chief took no action, we were going to State Police. Your tone is not commensurate with your offer of cooperation."

"What happened at the arraignment justified my advice to the chief to wait for DeCiantis' advice," Fazzano said. He said many more serious cases are delayed in higher courts and recalled that Afflick recently represented two alleged criminals out on bail in a State case, but was not present, nor were they, on the day the case was called.

Afflick recalled the gangland style slaying of Carlton M. O'Brien in West Warwick last Spring, but Fazzano belittled "any mention of that case in the same breath with this."

"Many things you call ridiculous are at the root of evils in our country today," said Afflick.

"Let's get it straight," answered Fazzano. "I thing my background is decent. I moved to West Warwick to raise a family here. You can tell your committee, if they have any ideas I'm going to stay here and allow it to become a hotbed of gambling, they're nuts. Regarding the O'Brien murder, regardless where he lived, that man was going to be killed."

"You don't have to defend your character," Afflick said. "It occupies a high place in my esteem."

"It seems to me that's the end of it," Fazzano said.

"Is it your position that it's all right for Mr. DeCiantis to accept a retainer from a law violator to settle an illegal matter while he is town solicitor?" Afflick asked.

"That's not what he said," Fazzano declared. "He conducted himself with integrity and honesty. I hope I can keep him on as town solicitor to keep on giving honest, able service."

"Was his conduct in keeping with the oath of office he took as town solicitor?" asked Afflick.

"Yes, it is," Fazzano said. "I know he'll never violate his oath of office as town solicitor. I will never lose five minutes sleep worrying about Mr. DeCiantis doing anything not for the best interests of the town. He came up the hard way and commands the respect of the bench and bar of the state and of its leading citizens."

"A man who has done that has a great heritage to protect," said Afflick. "I came up the hard way myself."

"Right," said Fazzano. "I'm 1000 per cent satisfied with his actions in this entire situation."

"It's for you to determine whether the town solicitor could accept a case of this kind," Afflick said. "My view is that when he became town solicitor he became attorney for the people, akin to the attorney general in the state. He relinquished the right to become an attorney for a law violator to settle an illegal matter."

"Just a moment, doesn't that apply to any attorney as well as town solicitor?" asked Fazzano. "I differ with your contention of the matter. He advised the man to make a complaint. There's no reason to rehab the alleged incident."

"Once your hand or mine, or Mr. DeCiantis' goes up in the air in the oath of office, we relinquish the right to take such a case," Afflick declared. "The issue is not one little bookie case. It's far reaching and deeper than that. There was the threat to kill and the murder in the town last spring."

"There are not going to be any murders," Fazzano asserted. "You've made a terrible mistake moving into the town if you think that the kind of town you moved into. It's ridiculous for the press, which will naturally report what's been said. If people pick up the paper and see the two things mentioned in the same breath some will say within a week that O'Brien was killed because of the Phillips-Forsy case."

He went on, "All decent citizens should have a certain amount of pride in their home town. It's no good to give such a distorted version to the people of the state."

Afflick answered, "It's for you to say whether the entrance of a town official into a case to settle an illegal case is commensurate with the oath of office. The town solicitor left the bag of non-feasance to be held by the chief and I don't think that fair to the chief. He said it was reported to the chief Oct. 24 and nothing was done until the state police moved in and did it. You answered the issue before it was brought up. I thank you for the opportunity I have had."

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DURING TOWN COUNCIL MEETING in West Warwick, Robert R. Afflick (left), attorney and Citizens Committee spokesman, criticizes the preliminary handling of a bookie case by Town Solicitor Michael De-

Ciantis and Police Chief Groleau. At right is his client, Eston W. Phillips, who has testified that the bookie, Walter Forsys, did not pay him \$3100 which he won as a bet in a horse race.

Evening Bulletin 1/14/53
—State Staff Photo by John B. Lake Jr.

ATTORNEY AFFLICK GOES BEFORE TOWN COUNCIL

Engages in Lengthy Discussion with President Fazzano Regarding Phillips and Forsys Case in West Warwick.

The public hearing at the West Warwick Town Council meeting last night gave to attorney Robert R. Afflick, counsel for Eston W. Phillips of West Warwick, who has pleaded guilty to placing a bet with Walter Forsys, alleged bookie, also of the town, was like a practice bomb. There was plen-

ty of noise, but nothing much that was concrete came of it.

After previously stating that he would attend the meeting as a representative of an anonymous citizens committee "with evidence of gambling", the only charges presented last night by Afflick was that two public officials, Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and Police Chief Arthur Groleau, did not act in the best interest of public service in regard to the Phillips-Forsys case. He said the town solicitor should not have accepted a client who admitted to breaking the law and that the chief of police refused to make arrest of either Phillips or Forsys while the town solicitor was away in Florida early last month.

Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano cleared both Chief Groleau and Town Solicitor DeCiantis. He said that even in more serious crimes, arrests are often delayed. He said the town solicitor, an attorney, could accept any client he wanted to, whether or not the case was in his home community.

Large Gathering

The hearing attracted a capacity gathering in the council chambers at the town hall including attorneys and many Crompton residents appearing in support of Forsys. Phillips sat next to Afflick throughout the hearing.

The arguments were between Fazzano and Afflick and centered as stated above around the duties of the office of a town solicitor. In giving the green light to DeCiantis, Fazzano, who is an assistant attorney general, said that he is the man who did the most to clean gambling from West Warwick and is an attorney held in the highest esteem by other attorneys and jurists throughout the state.

"Political Motive"

As the battle between the attorneys went on, assertions were made that Afflick must have a political motive behind the bookie case, the facts of which the town council would not consider last night because the case is still in the hands of the court.

Fazzano told Afflick, "You can tell your citizens committee that if they have any ideas I am going to stay in this town and allow it to become a hotbed of gambling they are nuts."

Fazzano said that because of the bookie trial the newspapers, in reporting the incident, have degraded West Warwick throughout the state. "You, Mr. Afflick, have indicated that in West Warwick there is widespread gambling and the officials have not done the job," he added.

"Has Become Ridiculous"

Fazzano said "there are people who have pride in this town and I am not going to see the town dragged into the mud over one little bookie case. It has been blown up until it has become ridiculous."

Afflick, in answer to Fazzano, said, "Your tone has not been commensurate with your pledge of cooperation. You can have your opinion over a little bookie case. When a man (Forsys) threatens another man's (Phillip's) life, it is more than a bookie case."

Fazzano replied that this incident was taken care of in the courts by one of the most ablest jurists of the state. He said that if that judge had felt it necessary, he would have made a more stern dispensation of the charge. Forsys is under a \$2000 bond to keep the peace.

POLICE ASKING 40-HOUR WEEK

West Warwick Council Gets Request; Added Personnel Seen Likely

West Warwick is one of the most active towns of the state—it has the third largest shopping district—its personnel has spread its fame—its services for what it costs at the \$2.25 tax rate is almost unique—and last night the town's police force served notice it wants to keep up with the times by asking that the members be put on a 40-hour week working schedule.

The police force including two sergeants, three corporals and 11 patrolmen requested the town council, through a letter and personal attendance, that they be put on the 40-hour a week schedule to "increase the enthusiasm of the present members for their duties and to attract to this profession men of the highest calibre."

At present the men of the force work 52 hours per week when on night duty and 54 hours per week when on the day shift. For this

amount of time on duty the patrolmen are paid \$66 per week.

Town Council President Francis J. Fazzano in receiving the petition said the Town Council appreciated the job the police have done and will give to the department their fullest cooperation as far as they are able to do so. "We hope we can reach a happy medium for the best service to the police and to the people."

More Patrolmen Seen

Behind the request is seen the need for seven additional patrolmen. At \$66 per week the cost for seven men would be \$24,024 annually. In the past two years the police have stated that any additional financial burden they place upon the town could be cared for by receipts from the parking meters and fines. Although this has not been done, the town in 1951 put out parking meters for the

(Continued on page 8, col. 1)

POLICE ASKING 40-HOUR WEEK

(Continued from page 1)

first time and went into debt for them to the amount of about \$23,000. They are expected to be paid for this year. That amount of income not counting the money received from fines would go a long way to meet the request of the police for a 40 hour week.

Sgt. Joseph Pontarelli, chairman of the special committee of the Fraternal Order of Police, West Warwick Lodge No. 6, in presenting the letter to the town council also requested that the police receive paid Blue Cross including surgical and physician service.

The letter released over his signature said "We the members of the Fraternal Order of Police feel a great sense of pride in the high rating achieved by the West Warwick Police Department in its law enforcement. We feel that we stand high on the state and national average, in suppressing and solving stated crimes. We believe that a detailed study of the records will bear us out. The record compiled over the last year will bear us out. However in studying a state survey we find that West

Warwick is far behind in matters of working hours in comparison with cities and towns of our group population."

3,621 Complaints

In the yearly report for 1952 also submitted last night by Chief Arthur Groleau it shows that the police last year investigated 3621 complaints; made 425 arrests; made 1981 escorts to banks; found open and secured 1277 doors; made 475 ambulance trips and recovered and returned stolen property to owners in amount of \$33,861.21.

Kent County Water Authority Appeals to Communities for Help

Company Urges an End To Fight Over Rates

The Kent County Water Authority, which raised its rates 150 per cent in January, 1951, shortly after it took over three private water firms, and then had them rolled back by action of the General Assembly and the Rhode Island Supreme Court, is foundering on the financial rocks, authority members said last night.

About 50 senators, representatives and town and city officials from communities served by the authority, who met in its headquarters in West Warwick, heard authority leaders admit they had made a mistake in not consulting them on the raise, and appeal for their help.

Bolstered by financial and engineering experts, authority heads painted a black picture of the condition of the water properties and water supply, and asked an end to fighting over rates and the start of a unified effort to win approval of the State Public Utilities Administration for higher rates.

Compromise Proposed

Edwin H. Arnold, Coventry representative on the authority, suggested as a compromise that agreement be reached that the authority should receive its requested rates for a three-year trial period to put it on its feet. At the end of that time, the rates could be reconsidered, Arnold said.

He declared that the authority is on the verge of defaulting on its bond payments this June and that, if it does, its credit and that of the state will be given a black eye in bond circles.

The authority issued \$2,062,500 in bonds to buy its property. At the time, under the 1946 act creating it, the authority had power to fix its own rates, but after consumer protests, the Supreme Court found it subject to public utility control.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, who led the fight against the authority's rate boost that resulted in the rollback, suggested that towns and cities might help the authority by declaring a moratorium on payments in lieu of taxes which are due them. The authority owes the communities served a total of \$76,561 which it has been unable to pay.

Calls Boost "Too Rugged"

DeCiantis declared that he still feels that the proposed rate increase is "too rugged." The authority now charges \$15 for a minimum of 50,000 gallons of water. It seeks to raise it to \$15 for only 20,000.

He said he would like to know why an engineer who made up a bond buyers' brochure describing the authority property and condition when it was trying to sell bonds had painted it in glowing terms. He said the brochure noted that the authority had a good water supply and equipment, and that its old rates were sufficient to retire the bonds and permit operation. Bondholders must have relied on the brochure, he said.

Col. Patrick H. Quinn, authority chairman, then said the engineer now is dead and asked for other questions.

Would Forgive Taxes

DeCiantis said he would be willing to go before the taxpayers in his town and ask them to forgive the amount due the town from the authority, if it would help bring about reasonable rates.

Daniel H. Morrissey, representative of bond houses, noting that the authority is not going to be able to pay the principal payment on its bonds.

Morrissey said he does not believe users should have to pay for capital improvements over a short time, but that sale of more bonds to finance needed improvements, including completion of a tie-in with Scituate reservoir, cannot be made while the authority is operating at a deficit. If enough money can be raised to put it back in the black, then capital improvements could be financed by further bond issues, he said.

Polluted Reservoir

Because of its inadequate water supply from Carr's Pond, West Greenwich, the authority has had to pump water from a polluted open reservoir at Fiskeville, Arnold said. There is one jagged main running through woods 10 or 12 miles to Carr's Pond, he added, citing the need for completion of the Scituate Reservoir tie-in.

Arnold explained that the authority has pipe laid from Scituate Reservoir to Fiskeville Reservoir, but a pumping station must be built.

Describing the importance of making the Scituate connection to assure adequate supply, the Coventry representative said Carr's Pond is 48 inches down and has never been so low. If it is not up by June 1, the area will be in a tough spot, he said.

Borrowing Attempted

He said the authority had tried to borrow more money to make capital improvements, including the Scituate tie-in and a needed new standpipe to replace a condemned one in Arctic and another in the Cowesett section of East Greenwich where a 50-year lease on a site will expire in 1954 or 1955.

"No banking house would take our bonds when we're on the verge of a default," Arnold said. "That can't be done unless our revenue is increased so we'll have a reserve. We're two and a half years behind now and, if we get the rates we've asked for, it would take that long to get even and pay the bills we owe."

Arnold said the authority wanted the cities and towns involved, West Warwick, Coventry, Warwick, East Greenwich, West Greenwich and parts of Scituate and Cranston, to know the problem and to try to prevent a long, drawn-out hearing before the public utilities commissioner on the rate raise.

Fire Hazards Cited

Both he and George B. Salter of Warwick said they hesitated to think what would have happened had the recent bad fires in Arctic and Apponaug occurred during summer when water is less adequate. Protection of health and property of residents demands improvements, they said.

Increased Costs Told

Thomas Freeman, board member for East Greenwich, cited increased costs of pipes and fittings, ranging up to nearly 300 per cent in some cases. As Albert V. Wood, authority manager, recalled that rates had not been raised for 37 years, Freeman also pointed out that labor costs have increased from 42 cents an hour in 1929 to \$1.46 an hour today.

One official, Sen. John T. Godfrey of West Greenwich, questioned the effect on his town of DeCiantis' proposal to forgive the payments due the towns and cities. He pointed out his town has no authority water customers and the \$1199 due it is considerable, since it has only \$35,000 a year on which to operate.

The authority owes other communities and fire districts as follows: West Warwick, \$24,794; Warwick, \$11,874; East Greenwich, \$9168; East Greenwich Fire District, \$572; Coventry Fire District, \$605; Scituate, \$253; Cranston, \$4168; Coventry, \$23,490; Harris Lighting District, \$105; Washington Lighting District, \$301; Tiogue Lighting District, \$30.

Wood said that at the end of the authority's fiscal year last June 30, its expenses exceeded income by \$30,000. Up to last Nov. 30 in the current fiscal year, there was a loss of \$14,000, he said.

The authority is supposed to set aside \$8000-\$9000 each month for interest and bond retirement, but can't do so and is \$50,000 short, he declared.

Sees Fifth Unaffected

Twenty-three hundred of the 4000 checks in which \$90,000 was refunded to customers last year by Supreme Court order as a result of the rate rollback were for less than \$10, Wood said. Many of them were for only a few cents, he added. He estimated a fifth of the customers would not be affected by the new rate because they don't use the 20,000 gallons that would be allowed for \$15.

Questioned by Quinn, Arthur Levalley, authority superintendent, said his crews have had considerable work fixing broken mains as a result of new sewer construction in West Warwick and had to make line changes near the new Meshanticut interchange. Quinn admitted that the sewer contract damages will eventually be paid by contractors' insurance but said that the interchange work must be absorbed by the authority.

Dr. Quinn Views

On School Eyed

PROV. JOURNAL 11/6/53
W. Warwick Committee

Delays Proposals Until Her Stand Is Known

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Although apparently in agreement that West Warwick should have more up-to-date school buildings, a special committee studying the Englehardt School survey last night voted to meet Jan. 29 with Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, to obtain her educational philosophy before making any recommendations.

Vincent J. Lukowicz, chairman of the group and also school committee chairman, said other school board members, Lorenzo Bergeron and Dr. Richard P. Duffy, will be asked to attend the meeting.

The group voted to seek the meeting after a member, Principal Francis Mullen of the high school, said no recommendations could be made for new school construction until it is known what Dr. Quinn expects the schools should provide from the educational viewpoint.

The physical plant and educational philosophy dovetail, he said. He pointed out that high school band members must practice an hour before the regular school session so as not to disturb classes. If band work is included in one's educational philosophy, he said, there should be provision for a sound-proof room.

Mullen added that, while the committee was named at the last annual town meeting to study the survey report, which was generally critical of the town's school buildings, it is only advisory. The school committee alone is charged with school business, he said.

Although the committee is scheduled to report to the town council and to the Mar. 17 annual town meeting, Mullen said it apparently will not be ready by then and probably will be able only to report progress to the town meeting.

Albert Coutu said new construction will depend on how much the town can borrow under the law. "We've talked for years about building new schools and there have been all kinds of committees, but nothing has been done," he said. "We should either shut up and keep the old schools or try to keep up with the trend in surrounding communities."

"If we could modernize, I'd like to see new buildings," said Lukowicz. "It's a question whether the town can afford it."

Quinn said certain contractors had complained about a \$40 charge the authority made for connection from the center of the road to homes. He said that Providence has raised its charge to \$50.

Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick) said he understood the authority property is worth eight to 15 million dollars and he couldn't understand why it couldn't borrow enough to make emergency capital improvements.

Earnings Necessary to Borrow
When Arnold and Quinn set value at about \$6,000,000 Di Fiore said, "so you've still got an equity of nearly \$4,000,000 over your bond issue of \$2,000,000."

A representative of Payne, Webber, Jackson and Curtis, securities firm, explained:

"You don't make loans on such equity. To sell more securities, you've got to get an earning 1.4 times higher than the bonds outstanding. You could go to your own local banks and take subordinated notes, but I understand local banks won't loan a dime as the authority is in the red."

Sen. Horace L. Greene (R-Coventry) questioned DeCiantis' proposal to forgive payments due towns and cities, saying, "If the taxpayers vote to turn back the taxes, they've got to pay one way or another. Would it be less painful through the water bill or taxes?"

"If you get the rates asked for, is it the intention to see everyone in Kent County has fire protection and water?" asked Republican Councilman Glenn Seavey of East Greenwich. "Some Frenchtown communities would pay for water at \$135."

Quinn answered that extensions would be made as fast as income permitted.

HIGHER WATER RATES SOUGHT

Kent County Authority in Plea at Open Forum

Kent County Water Authority last night made a personal appeal to about 50 civic officials of the communities they service to help them reach an agreement on establishing higher water rates so they can get out of the red on their fiscal books and make "urgent" capital improvements.

After explaining the "financial difficulty they now find themselves in" because the rate increase offered in 1951 was not allowed, the authority members in company with their lawyers, engineers and representatives of the bondholders conducted a question

and answer forum on why they need higher water rates and promised they would tabulate their answers, write them out and mail them back to the community representatives within two or three weeks.

Merger of 3 Companies

The water authority was created by an act of legislature in 1946 to direct a merger of three independent water companies: Pawtuxet Valley Water Co., Warwick & Coventry Water Co. and East Greenwich Water Co. During June, 1950, the authority acquired the water properties of the privately owned companies and proceeded to operate and to furnish water. The difficulties started that fall when the authority came out with an increase in that a customer who used to pay \$15 for 50,000 gallons would have to pay the same \$15 for 20,000 gallons, and \$37.50 for 50,000 gallons or an increase of about 150 per cent.

West Warwick, through its town solicitor, Michael DeCiantis jumped to a protest over the rate increase and on Feb. 6, 1952, the General Assembly put the water authority under control of the State Public Utilities Administrator and its water rates were, by law rolled back to what they were prior to the raise. Subsequent court action disallowed the rates and \$90,000 was paid back to those users of water who had paid the higher rates.

Seek "United Front"

Last night the authority members acknowledged they made the wrong approach to get a raise in their water rates, and apologized almost to a man for not previously meeting with the five towns' and two cities' representatives. They called for a new agreement over a higher rate, even if only temporary, so they can go together before the Public Utilities Administrator and in a "united front" seek the higher rates.

Albert V. Wood, office manager of the Kent County Water Authority

(Continued on page 2, col. 4.)

HIGHER WATER RATES SOUGHT

(Continued from page 1)

ority said the utility was faced with the following fiscal difficulties: for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1952, the expenses exceeded the income by \$30,000; the five months operations from July 1, 1952 to Nov. 30, 1952 show a loss of \$14,000 the authority which is supposed to pay the various cities, towns, and fire districts each year an amount equal to the taxes levied in the year 1949 are delinquent in these payments by approximately \$76,000 some of which are three years overdue, according to the terms of the bonds the authority is to set aside from earnings \$8,000 to \$9,000 each month for interest and bond retirement and this fund is \$50,000 short and at present the authority is unable to set aside any money to take care of these obligations; the disallowed increase forced the authority to refund approximately \$90,000 to over 4,000 customers.

Cites Need of More Revenue

Edwin H. Arnold, Coventry's representative to the water authority, explained the need for additional revenue to make capital improvements. He said that the pipe line, a 16-inch main, has been laid from the underground reservoir in Fiskeville to the Providence water supply reservoir in Scituate, but because of lack of funds, the pumps cannot be connected.

"We have only one other supply of water and that is Carr's Pond. Tonight the water level there is down 48 inches and if it is not full by June 1, this community is going to be in a tough spot," he added.

George Salter, Warwick's representative to the water authority, said that the water tank, a stand pipe, in Cowesett, is on leased land and is too old and too small today. "We need a new stand pipe in Cowesett capable of 1,000,000 gallons storage and we need to replace the water tank in Arctic which the engineers have condemned."

Could Impair Credit

Arnold said that the water authority since being refused the rate increase, tried to find a way out. He said the authority first tried to sell bond to pay for capital improvements, but couldn't sell them because they were on the verge of default. A default on the bond issue will impair the credit of the whole State of Rhode Island and the costs for additional bond issues even for schools will be higher because of us, Arnold added. Arnold said that under an indenture of the bond issue the bond holders without receipt of payment, could come in under provisions of default and take over the property. Edward N. McLaughlin of Payne, Webber, Jackson and Curtis, a national investment banking firm, said that by properties, Arnold means the bond holders could come in and claim gross income.

After Col. Patrick H. Quinn, authority chairman, called for a question and answer forum, nearly all of the officials of the towns of West Warwick, Coventry, East Greenwich, West Greenwich, Scituate and the cities of Warwick and Cranston, took part.

DeCiantis, who led the fight against the higher rates in 1951 and last year, said, "The board may have thought that we who fought against them may have done so personally. That is not so. We did fight because I thought the increase was and still is too rugged because our questions were never answered. When the water board bought the water companies it sent out a brochure. In it the water companies were named and rates were given; an engineer had a table in the brochure and explained we had a good water supply; good equipment. The table set out the bond issue, and said the bonds could be relieved in 20 years under the same rates we now pay and that the companies could operate on those rates. I think when the bond holders bought the bonds they must have relied upon that brochure, so they could depend upon whether or not it was a good company. It was made up by one of the best engineering firms in the country.

Consumers Should Know

"Now, immediately after the

bonds are issued we are faced with a 150 per cent increase. I think the consumers ought to know why the increase, when the brochures said what it did. That question should be answered before we meet again. You can't tell the average man that we now have an obsolete system. Until you do, I don't think anyone and I won't say increase the rates 150 per cent. I feel there are people in this town who can't and won't pay. Property owners, especially those with tenements, are being injured. I suggest there be cooperation, and I will do anything I can to see it operates properly, but for a reasonable rate. We have got to let the people know who was wrong in that brochure.

"There ought to be a way to pay for this water company. If it helps, I suggest the communities forget the \$75,000 indebtedness the water authority owes to them."

Differing from the suggestion offered by Salter that the higher rates be put into effect for a three-year period and then let the public utilities administrator fix rates thereafter, DeCiantis said he wouldn't be a part of such a plan. "I believe we can cooperate if you answer my questions about the brochure.

When it was apparent DeCiantis' question wouldn't be answered, Arnold stepped in and said it was a logical question and there is an answer and that because it was technical he would need time to answer it. At this point, Arnold began to write down all other questions offered and promised the water authority would answer them by mail and then would probably follow through with another meeting of representatives of communities served by the water authority.

W. Warwick Still

Mulls Sewer Bids

PROV. JOURNAL 1/16/53
The West Warwick town council failed to award a contract for the third phase of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension program at its meeting this week because bids opened last Dec. 1 still are under study, Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said last night.

Bids are being studied, he said, as to prices, including cost of specific items; completion time promised and the experience, reputation and equipment of the various bidders.

Low bidder on the job was the Barba Construction Co., of West Warwick, whose \$138,181.50 was \$28,513 lower than the second lowest bid of \$166,695 by Capaldi Brothers, Providence.

QUESTION AND ANSWER FORUM HELD BY KENT COUNTY WATER BOARD

P.V. TIMES
11/16/53

After laying their "cards on the table" which showed they were in the red in the fiscal books and that money is needed to make payment of the bond issue and for "urgent" capital improvements to the system, Kent County Water Authority conducted a question and answer forum with the about 50 civic representatives of the five towns and two cities they fully and partially service.

Col. Patrick H. Quinn, water authority chairman himself, opened the forum which he said would be like "Meet The Press" when he asked the water authority superintendent, Arthur LeValley:

Q. Has there been a loss of labor time because of the construction work like at Meshanticut Park and because of the sewer extension service in West Warwick.

A. Yes, and there have been breaks in the water lines when the sewer trenches were dug too deeply and the sewer contractors are calling upon us to lower or raise the water lines as their extensions are made.

Q. Quinn. During the past several summers has it been necessary for you to pump water to the underground reservoir in Fiskeville from the open reservoir there?

A. Yes, and last summer we had to put in auxiliary pumps to raise the dangerously low water level of the underground supply. If there had been a fire in Hope

or Fiskeville last summer, the firemen would have been out of luck. At one time there was only 12,000 gallons on hand in the open reservoir.

Widows and Orphans

Q. Francis J. Fazzano, president of West Warwick Town Council. When you speak of the fact that widows and orphans didn't get any money back because of the rebate, don't you think they made the attempt to cut down on their water consumption so they could get a small bill.

A. Quinn. The answer is no, because we told you more than 2000 users never used over 20,000 gallons of water and 2300 of the rebate checks were issued for less than \$10.

Fazzano.—I moved into West Warwick in June of 1950 and I used little water. I didn't water my lawn, but the difference in my bill was from \$29 to \$70 and I didn't use anywhere near as much water.

Q. Fazzano. You say that for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1952, the expenses exceeded the income by \$30,000, did you include your expenses, what your expenditures were?

A. Albert V. Wood, office manager of the water authority. Yes.

Q. Fazzano. I presume capital improvement payments were made.

A. Wood. No, and no capital improvements go into expenditures.

Q. Rep. Gerard DiFiore of West Warwick. You say you can't borrow any more money for capital improvements. How much do you need? I believe we were told two years ago at a meeting at Congdon's hall that our assets were \$6,000,000 and we paid over \$2,000,000 for the water companies. I am annoyed to think we can't borrow on our equity.

A. Edward J. McLaughlin of Payne, Webber, Jackson & Curtis, national investment banking firm. The question of equity in a municipal utility is not sufficient for a loan, it is theoretical. Ability to borrow is based on ability to pay. They can't borrow because under terms of the indenture they have to earn principal and inter-

est of 1-1/4 per cent on bonds outstanding and they are not even earning interest. The only other source is to go to other banking institutions, but I understand the local banks have looked at the statement of the water authority and they wouldn't give us a dime.

Q. Charles Anderson, town solicitor of Coventry. In regard to the compromise to put the higher rate schedule into effect for three years and then let the Public Utilities Administrator fix the rates thereafter, how about a five-year period with a little lesser increase in rates.

Extensions Needed

A. Quinn. As the engineer's attorney stated, we have to put in extensions also. George Salter, Warwick's representative on the water authority. We considered a lot of things. At the outset we had three plans and we gave thought to going the middle of the road, but figured then that we would get our brains batted out even on that plan. How do we know you won't fail to back us again. Let's not plan anything specific tonight.

Q. Sen. John Godfrey of West Greenwich. Before the water authority attempted to put the new rates into effect they must have made a survey. Are we high in comparison with other communities?

A. Quinn. Concerning hydrants from here to Pennsylvania some annual rentals run up to \$90. Here we have the rentals sets at \$50 in East Greenwich; in Warwick, a part of them at \$50 and a part at \$30; all from Riverpoint to Scituate, \$30; in Crompton they are \$25. I have no knowledge we have been able to obtain rates outside Rhode Island on charge of water. Mr. Ballou, senior member of the Jenks & Ballou engineering firm which recommended the higher water rates, said that most comparable water systems are supported in part by taxes. He said the rates in this area are obsolete. Quinn. Wakefield Water Co. with a minimum of \$25, recently filed for an increase to \$34 as the minimum.

Q. Glen Seavey, East Greenwich councilman. Suppose nothing happens over the water rates, then what?

A. Quinn. The Public Utilities fixes the rates and if we are not satisfied, either party can take it to the Supreme Court.

Q. Seavey. I mean if you default on your bonds and interest payments, what is the end then?

A. Quinn. No water. The bondholders could probably go before the Supreme Court and have a rate ordered, and they would probably get it.

Q. Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick. Tell us who was wrong in preparing the brochure on which the water authority bonds were sold.

A. Edwin H. Arnold, water authority member of Coventry. That is a logical question and has an answer. It is a technical question but I will be glad to answer it although it will take me some time. DeCiantis also asked Arnold to figure what the writing off of the \$75,000 debt the water authority owes to the communities would have and what effect it would have if all hydrant rentals were increased to make them equal.

Past Performances

Q. Mayor Bud Goff of War-

W. Warwick PTA Unit to Ask \$15,000 To Improve Lighting in Grade Schools

PROV. JOURNAL 11/16/53

The West Warwick Council of PTA's, meeting in the junior high school, last night voted to ask the school committee to include \$15,000 in its budget request at the Mar. 17 town meeting to bring lighting in five elementary schools up to proper standards.

There are six elementary schools in the town, but Arctic School was left out, it was said, after Dr. Maisie E. Quinn had pointed out that the planning board has suggested abandoning that ancient building, located in the heart of the commercial center.

The PTA leaders acted after hearing a report by Edwin Baker, lighting specialist, who also showed

a movie, "Educating in a Truer Light."

Baker last night tested the lighting adequacy in the junior high sewing room and found it registered six candlepower, whereas it should be 50 in such a classroom, he said.

Although he surveyed lighting adequacy only at the Natick School, Baker, at the council's suggestion, estimated that it would cost between \$36,000 and \$40,000 to provide adequate lighting in the five lower schools, the junior and senior high schools. This would include fixtures, installation, revamping of wiring and pole-to-school work that

might be necessary, as well as installation of more outlets for visual aid work.

wick. Tell us what the individual past performances under the old water companies and now under the water authority have been. It must have been a profitable organization at one time.

Q. Rep. Joseph DeGraide of Coventry. How many customers have been added since the water authority took over?

Q. Councilman Romano of East Greenwich. How many hydrants are there? Tell us what the three rate increases were. Why don't you boost the hydrant rental?

Q. An East Greenwich representative called for a breakdown of the rates from some of the people who have been objecting to the higher rates.

Q. Sen. Godfrey. If there is consideration given to the tax rebate, how would West Greenwich figure on this with no users.

A. Wood. The indebtedness is as follows: West Warwick, \$24,794; Warwick, \$11,874; East Greenwich, \$9168; East Greenwich Fire District, \$572; Coventry Fire District, \$605; Scituate, \$253; Cranston, \$4168; Coventry, \$23,490; Harris Fire District, \$105; Washington Fire District, \$301; Tiogue Fire District, \$30; West Greenwich, \$1199; total—\$76,591.

SCHOOL BUILDING SURVEY GROUP WILL CONFER WITH DR. QUINN, SCHOOL BOARD

P.F. TIMES 1/16/53

West Warwick Committee, Named by Taxpayers, Has Completed Study of Phenix and Riverpoint Structures.

The West Warwick School Building Survey Committee last night voted to meet with the school committee and Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, on Jan. 29, before going any further with their work.

The seven-member group was appointed by taxpayers at the last financial town meeting to check on the school building properties as reported by the Engelhardt, Engelhardt & Leggett survey and to report their own survey to the school committee and town council. Taxpayers expect the latter two groups to make recommendations for improving the present or for the construction of new schools from the surveys.

With exception of Highland Street and Harris Avenue schools the group has made only a partial study of the other school buildings. Before going on with their survey they want to meet jointly with the school board and superintendent to get their opinions on

the complex problems facing the school building situation of West Warwick.

Three Buildings Asked

The survey conducted by Engelhardt, Engelhardt & Leggett, nationally known educational consultants, recommended construction of three new buildings, disposition of two others and a rearrangement of the classes attending the primary, elementary and junior and senior high schools. They would do away with Arctic and Crompton Grammar schools, the latter because of its present condition and because of the expected population growth in that section of the town and the former because of its unsatisfactory location and the character of the building.

In addition to a new school for Crompton, they recommended the two other new buildings for the high school, one for science and shop and the other for physical education. In reshuffling classes, the survey recommended that New London Avenue, Harris Avenue, Highland Street and Providence Street elementary schools be used for primary grades (one through four) only and that the grades, five through eight be maintained at the junior high school as elementary grades and grades nine through 12 be held at the senior high school only, as both junior and senior high school grades. With exception of the junior high school nearly all other school buildings were found in need of repair and improvements.

Long Range Program

At the outset of the meeting last night, Francis E. Mullen, principal of the high school, said that he has re-read the Engelhardt survey and as far as repairs goes, he would like to know if the committee is supposed to include them in a long-range school building program which would have to be recommended by the school committee and superintendent.

Mrs. Mary Spencer said that Town Solicitor Michael DeClantis has stated through the newspapers that West Warwick is in need of new school buildings.

Leo V. Carey called on the committee to approach the problems of repairs and new buildings from two angles. He said that perhaps necessary or emergency repairs could be made now and plans could also be made for a long-range building program to take care of the future.

Albert C. Coutu recommended that the committee first find the cost and then perhaps consider a special tax for future and better schools and then take it to the taxpayers for their consideration.

Emergency Repairs

When Coutu asked if the emergency repairs could go into the school budget, Vincent J. Lukowicz, committee chairman and also chairman of the school board, said the school committee is limited to between \$5000 and \$6000 for maintenance. Expenditures for other improvements over that amount would have to be provided in a special appropriation.

In calling upon West Warwick to keep up with other towns in school building needs, Coutu said the town should find out how much money it could borrow or could raise by a revaluation of property, especially buildings which are at least 10 years old. New schools add to property value.

(Continued on page 8, col. 3)

Sewer Work Low Bidder Questioned by Council

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Assembling as a sewer commission in the town hall, the West Warwick Town Council last night questioned the co-owner of a West Warwick construction company on the firm's ability to handle the third phase of the town's sewer project for which it has entered the lowest bid.

The Council also sought explanation concerning reportedly adverse reports concerning some previous projects taken on by the firm. Immediately after the meeting,

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, announced that a contract would be awarded for the work at the next regular council meeting Feb. 10.

Decision Awaited

A decision has been awaited on the firm to get the job since Dec. 1, when the bids were opened. The Barba Construction Co. of Main Street promised the work at the lowest price, \$138,181.50. The two next lowest bidders were Capaldi Brothers Construction Co. of Providence, which quoted \$166,695, and R. Zoppo Co. of Norwood, Mass.—now constructing the first two phases of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension project—\$167,720.

The Barba company expected to take 300 days to accomplish the work while the Capaldi firm promised completion in 220 days and the Zoppo concern, 200 days.

Appearing before the council last night at a session opened to the press "so that the people may know why we make our final decision," according to Fazzano, Angelo Barba, co-proprietor of the construction concern with his brother, Louis, was interrogated closely by council members on past projects handled by his firm.

Projects Listed

Those mentioned, all involving sewer construction, were one in East Providence costing \$31,000 in 1948, the year the company was founded; two others at the University of Rhode Island in 1950 and 1951, each totaling \$113,000 and another at Marblehead, Mass., last year amounting to \$60,000.

Fazzano, who later said he had investigated the caliber of the firm's work on the various projects, pressed Barba for explanation of what he said were unfavorable reports given on several of them.

According to the council president, the company has not yet been granted a \$21,000 claim against the state for the first of the university projects, a person was injured during blasting operations by the firm on the Marblehead job and dissatisfaction was registered by East Providence officials queried on the work completed in the vicinity of Taunton Avenue there by Barba.

Barba was also questioned on the equipment possessed by his firm, whether insurance would be carried, how he would meet delays caused by breakdowns and what he thought were the chances of completing the job on schedule.

The company head responded that he was confident the work would be completed on time and satisfactorily by his firm.

School Building Survey Group Will Confer with Dr. Quinn, School Board (Continued from page 1)

uation for benefit of taxpayers, he added.

In answer to Mrs. Spencer that the committee was set up to report a survey, Carey said it is alright for the committee to make recommendations, but they should be prepared to back up their recommendations with figures of the cost.

At this point, Mullen said the town needs first to find out what would be the best possible school plant for the community and then determine the cost "Whether or not it is economical to build larger schools and do away with the smaller schools and transport pupils to those larger schools," I don't know he added. When you talk about new schools, you should know what services you expect of them, the high school principal said.

Elementary Buildings

When the discussion centered around the elementary school buildings and possible abandonment of Crompton, Arctic and Highland Street schools, Coutu said that perhaps the Catholic churches would be interested in them and would buy them for parochial schools. It was pointed out that St. Joseph's Church, Natick and St. Mary's Church, Crompton, is planning for parochial schools.

When talk arose over selection of a site, Carey said he thought that project would be the work of another committee.

In filing a second report on Highland Street School, Mrs. Spencer said on her latest survey of that school she found there were 106 pupils attending the public school section of the school; the school yard was adequate but its surface was stony and there was poison ivy on the fence; the lighting for grades one and two was poor and it was necessary to keep the lights on all day while in grades three and four there was too much natural light and shades had to be drawn to prevent glare; grade five on the second floor was dark and grade six had glare; the principal's office was merely a bleak closet and the teacher's room was uncomfortable; children from both schools use the same toilets; in the parochial school side there is better lighting but no running water. Mrs. Spencer listed as needs for the school, a supply closet, a library, facilities for washing hands, painting of window sills, better lighting system or perhaps use the building to the rear for only grades one and two and transport the rest to Harris Avenue School.

Albert C. Knight, who had filed a previous report on Harris Avenue School, said last night that school has resurfaced the school yard and a new boiler for the heating system is now in operation.

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PROV. JOURNAL 1/21/53

Forys' Bail Set After Bet Trial

\$3000 Ordered; Faces Kent County Jurors On 2nd Offense Count

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Walter S. Forys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, yesterday was held for the March session of the Kent County Grand Jury in \$3000 bail on a second-offense book-making charge, after trial in Warwick District Court.

Bail was provided by John A. and Mary Pinto of Washington Street, Coventry.

Judge James W. Leighton noted the trial had brought out affirmative testimony that Eston W. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, had placed bets on three horses with Forys, had won \$684 on those bets, and had not paid that amount, and that there was no denial of this by the defense.

He denied a motion by Leo P. McGowan, counsel for Forys, to dismiss the charge on the ground that there was confusion as to the date of the betting, there was no substantiation of Phillips' testimony and that Phillips was indefinite as to which races he bet on at what tracks.

The trial consisted chiefly of the testimony by Phillips, who previously had accused Forys of welshing on a \$3100 payoff.

Bettor Already Fined

Phillips himself previously had admitted sufficient evidence to convict on a charge of placing a bet. He has appealed a \$100 fine imposed by Judge Leighton.

In still another previous court action, Judge Leighton found Forys guilty on a private complaint brought by Phillips that Forys threatened to kill him. Forys is under \$2000 bond, provided by the Pintos, to keep the peace for 12 months.

Remarks by Court

As yesterday's trial came to a conclusion, Judge Leighton said the court was aware of a very flagrant contradiction between testimony given by Phillips in court at West Warwick, and in court yesterday.

He said he wanted Phillips to know that the court was aware of this "absolutely contradictory statement," which he did not define.

The defense made the prosecution show, by a record brought from East Greenwich, that Forys previously had been convicted of book-making. The record showed that Forys was arraigned at East Greenwich Apr. 27, 1952, pleaded no contest to a charge of bookmaking Apr. 26 and was fined \$50 and costs.

Another witness yesterday was John B. Lake, manager of the Journal-Bulletin office in West Warwick, who covered Forys' trial on Phillips' private complaint. No stenographic record was made of that proceeding. Lake testified, however, that he recalled Forys admitted at that trial Phillips had placed bets with him at West Warwick.

W. WARWICK MAN FINED \$50

Raymond Lamothe, 22, of 11 Sisson Street, West Warwick, in an appeal of a Fourth District Court sentence of 30 days in jail on a charge of malicious damage of property to which he pleaded guilty, yesterday was fined \$50 and costs by Judge Thomas H. Roberts in Kent County Superior Court, East Greenwich.

On the recommendation of Arthur W. Costantino, special counsel for the attorney general's office, Judge Roberts imposed the fine and noted the defendant had no previous record and that the man probably soon would go into military service.

Lamothe was arrested Nov. 25 by West Warwick police for damaging traffic signs and overturning a mailbox. PROV. JOURNAL 1/29/53

Costantino also was assigned certain days to hold hearings on five criminal appeals, including the case of Eston Wayne Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, who has been charged by state police with placing a bet.

Robert R. Afflick, attorney for Phillips, said the case would be ready for hearing on Monday. Phillips, in district court, admitted sufficient evidence to convict and was fined \$100 and costs.

Tells Story of Betting

Under questioning by Alfred E. Motta, special state counsel, Phillips said that on Oct. 22 at about 12:30 p.m. he went to a second-floor room at 1631 Main Street and Forys was there, seated at a table with scratch sheets and racing papers. He said eight or 10 other men were in the room.

Phillips said he read the Morning Telegraph, a racing paper, for a while. At about 1 p.m., he told Forys he wanted to play the first race at New York, betting \$30 to win and \$20 to place on a horse named Glinka. He said he paid Forys in cash, and Forys put the money in his pocket and entered the bet on a pad.

Phillips testified that he then bet \$30 to win and \$20 to place on admission in the first race at Rockingham, and \$20 to win and \$10 to place on a long shot at a New Jersey track.

Two Horses Won

Then, Phillips said, he asked Forys whether, if he won at Rockingham, he could put the winnings on races at the New York track and the one in New Jersey, and Forys said he could put the winnings on only one of the two, so he chose the New York track.

Phillips testified that his horses won at Rockingham and New York but the New Jersey horse, lost, and he then had \$684 or \$686 coming to him.

Forys paid him \$384 and owed him \$300, Phillips testified, and Phillips told him he had bet in cash and wanted to be paid in cash. Others in the room spoke up, Phillips said, and said that Forys was good for it.

After direct examination by Motta, Forys' counsel, Leo P. McGowan, took Phillips back over his testimony at length in respect to his movements that day and the time of each, and questioned him about persons in the horse betting room while Phillips was there.

PROV. JOURNAL 2/1/53

West Warwick PTA Councilmen Seek Funds for Better Lightiny in Shools

A delegation from the West Warwick PTA Council last night attempted a meeting of the school committee to seek backing for an appropriation to improve artificial lighting in all elementary schools except Arctic School, but was told the matter must await recommendations of a special committee studying the Englehardt survey of school buildings.

School board members appeared cool toward taking action on the basis of a survey of lighting by a representative of the Narragansett Electric Light Co., who estimated it would cost about \$38,000 to bring lighting in all town schools, including the junior and senior high schools, up to standard.

Chairman Vincent J. Lukowicz said he was not convinced the expenditure suggested would be warranted considering the extent to which artificial lighting is used in school. Lukowicz, who said last week that the lighting survey report would be released last night, said it will not be released until later because the board has not had time to study it.

Dr. Richard P. Duffy, another

board member, admitted some lighting faults, but said he was disappointed in the expert's report because other factors, such as reflective capacity of walls, ceilings and furniture must be considered. He said he would want to spend no money until he was convinced that full value would be received.

He mentioned a Warwick school where it had turned out there was too much candlepower in lighting, creating a worse condition than under-illumination.

Mrs. A. Vaughan Abercrombie, spokesman for the PTA group, said it sought for \$15,000 to bring lighting up to standard in all elementary schools except Arctic, which Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, has said should be abandoned.

Dr. Quinn said the idea of new consolidated schools has been discussed in the special study committee and pointed out the effect that might have on any expenditure on the old schools.

After conferring with the parents, the committee went into a closed session to begin preparation of its 1953-54 budget for presentation to the town council.

PROV. JOURNAL 2/1/53

2nd Lowest Sewer Bid Wins W. Warwick Nod

Bypassing the low bidder, Barba Construction Co. of West Warwick, the West Warwick town council last night awarded the contract for the third and last phase of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension program to Capaldi Brothers Construction Co. of Providence.

The Barba firm had bid \$138,181.50, with a completion time of 300 days. This was \$28,513 lower than Capaldi Brothers, second lowest bidder at \$166,695 and a completion time of 220 days.

Bids had been under study since they were opened last Dec. 1. Last month, the council called in an official of the Barba company and questioned him at length about reported difficulties on previous projects and about the firm's equipment.

Explains Reasons

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said: "After study of all the bids and the amount of time necessary to complete the work, specific items in the bids, which were variable, the previous experience of bidders, their equipment and general qualifications, it was found to be in the best interest of the town to give the contract to Capaldi Brothers. It was done after much serious consideration."

Contractor on the first two phases of the big sewer job is R. Zoppo Construction Co. of Norwood, Mass.

The council last night was besieged with requests for appropriations and a bond issue, which it took under consideration in planning a budget for the Mar. 17 annual town meeting, with remarks by Fazzano that the town cannot do everything at once and "first things must come first."

Firemen, who had a delegation present, asked for consideration of their wages to bring them up to those of police, rank for rank. Last

year, police got a 20 per cent raise and firemen received only 10 per cent. They also asked a reduction of their work week from 84 to 56 hours.

Would Get \$24,000

Edward E. Kelley, firemen's spokesman, said granting the requests would cost about \$24,000 a year, including \$3583.40 cost of raises and, in addition, salaries to be paid six new firemen who would have to be hired to effect the shorter work week.

In addition, Fire Chief Gareau renewed his request of last year for a new fire station for Arctic headquarters and purchase of a 65-foot aerial ladder truck.

A delegation from the Veteran's Council, headed by Edward N. Tew, president, strongly urged that a new municipal building, which would include a new town hall, fire and police station, be provided for by a bond issue at the coming town meeting. It would be a veterans' memorial.

Vets Ask Improvements

Tew said the veterans also favored needed improvements in the town's school buildings.

He said the veterans had sought the new municipal buildings for five years, that it was in the last Democratic platform and that previous appropriations at other town meetings for plans for such a building never had been used and had reverted to the general fund.

Apparently overcome by all the requests, Fazzano said. "All these things are wonderful and should some day be done. But there's only a certain amount of money coming in and it's all we can spend." He noted that school building needs are being studied by a special committee investigating the Englehardt survey of school buildings, and their recommendations also might be extended to those of police, rank for rank. Last

PROV. JOURNAL 2/12/53
**Meunier Denies
Postal Job Bid**

**Ex-West Warwick GOP
Chief Says He Is Not
Interested—at Moment**

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Roland E. Meunier, attorney, former West Warwick Republican town chairman and a member of the town committee, said yesterday that he is not a candidate for the vacant West Warwick postmaster-ship "as of the moment."

As the town committee prepares to meet soon to make an endorsement for the post, Meunier, who has been reported to be one of eight or 10 candidates, apparently left the door open for his candidacy in case another U.S. Civil Service Commission examination should be called.

Meunier's father, the late Moise Meunier, was postmaster in Arctic from 1896 to 1914, before the present central post office was established.

Vacant Since 1949

Among those reported interested in the post, it was learned, are Joseph Gamelin, veteran Republican and former superintendent of lights, and Joseph Lamothe, GOP member of the town canvassing authority.

The position has been vacant since 1949, when a Democratic appointee, Thomas J. Durand, retired. Since then, the town Democratic administration has been unable to jockey a candidate agreeable to it into position for appointment and now has lost the opportunity to the new national GOP administration. The job traditionally has gone to a Franco-American.

The last civil service exam resulted in another impasse such as resulted in 1950 when the Civil Service Commission referred the names of Clarence W. Lambert, now assistant postmaster, and Fulda Geoffroy, former Democratic town clerk. Democrats then endorsed Geoffroy, a non-veteran, but a veterans' protest in favor of Lambert stopped action.

In the latest examination, the top men, in order, were Lambert, Geoffroy and Henry A. Melancon. Melancon last year was named acting postmaster to resolve temporarily a recurrence of the Lambert-Geoffroy battle over veterans' preference.

How GOP Could Fit In

C. B. Uttley, acting assistant postmaster general in the administration of President Eisenhower, has told state GOP leaders that the vacancy might be filled by appointment of any one of the three names on the list, or any classified employee now in the post office may be considered for promotion after a qualifying, non-competitive exam, if he or she gets endorsement. Some other present post office employees are interested in the post.

How any Republican leader might get the post as a reward for party political activity, with present civil service rules, was a topic of discussion yesterday in GOP circles. That apparently would hinge on the man or woman placing among the top three in a new examination, and party men were uncertain whether it could be had, inasmuch as a list is available from a previous exam.

Some felt that a selection should be made from the present list to avoid the delay of years that occurred under the Democrats.

PROV. JOURNAL 2/12/53
**W. Warwick Athletic
Program Is Proposed**

A special committee named by the West Warwick Town Council to recommend improvements at the town athletic field, Riverpoint, and obtain an estimate of costs last night set up a five-point program for which it won't have full cost estimates until next week.

In order of importance, as judged by the committee, it will recommend,

1. Additional bleachers to seat 1000 persons.

2. Floodlights for night athletic contests.

3. Erection of a field house with toilets, showers and storage space at the athletic field.

4. Waterproofing and resurfacing of the auditorium next to the

high school to make it suitable for basketball, skating and tennis.

5. Replacement of the old wooden fence at the athletic field with a chain link metal fence.

Chairman Frank J. Lachapelle received subcommittee reports at the meeting in the police station recreation room that floodlights would cost about \$4000, plus installation expense, bleachers would be about \$4600, and new fencing would cost \$6950, or \$6500, if the town tears down the old fence itself.

These three items added up to \$15,550, but to that would be added the cost of the field house and auditorium improvements, yet to be determined. Lachapelle explained that costs might conceivably be less if the town advertised for bids.

He said that the floodlights would make possible night games that would increase gate receipts. Part of the cost of the fence could be regained by charging for advertising on it, he said.

Armand Guertin pointed out that the town administration is facing exceptional requests for appropriations from all quarters as it approaches the Mar. 17 annual town meeting and that it might not want to undertake the entire program in one year. However, committee members said they believed the administration wants a complete report on what is needed. The final cost estimate will go to the school committee, which is the town's recreation committee, for a possible request in the town meeting appropriation.

Albert DiMartino asserted that the committee should include in its report a strong recommendation sometime in the future, the town build a new field in another location. The present field adjoins the town dump and has been a source of complaints about dump smoke and smells.

Guertin said that increased receipts that would come from floodlighting and new bleachers might go partly toward making up their cost. John E. McCarthy, high school athletic director, said it would have to be worked out with the school committee.

Frank Maznicki, high school coach, said the athletic field is so far from the high school that it should have a field house for players. He said it could be of cement block without inside finish.

McCarthy said the West Warwick Boosters Club undoubtedly will get behind the program, and Guertin said that support is likely to come from the West Warwick Junior Chamber of Commerce.

McCarthy warned that the committee should not try to save on bleacher costs. He said the main factor is safety and "we don't want 1000 kids going through them some day."

Other committee members are John Moreau, Nino Giorgio, Arthur Theriot and Edward Furtado.

PROV. JOURNAL 2/12/53
**Fazzano Gives
Explanation**

**Says Revaluation
Would Help Pay
For Sewage Disposal**

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, explained last night that his remark this week that a tax revaluation program might bring in enough new revenue to help pay for the \$1,200,000 sewer extension program, applied only to the sewage disposal plant part of the program.

Fazzano was criticized yesterday by Ernest E. Lefebvre, former GOP town council president, on the grounds that the original sewer installation in 1940 is being paid for only by those whose property abuts sewer lines and the same should be true on the present extension.

Lefebvre pointed out that Harry F. McKanna Jr., sewer commission counsel, has said the same general law applies to the present extensions that was set up for the original installation.

Lefebvre said he had interpreted Fazzano's remark to mean that those who have already paid for their sewers would be paying part of the cost of the new lines as well.

"My thought was that part of the cost of additions and improvements at the sewage disposal plant might be paid for by the town," Fazzano said. "Let's assume that part of the work costs \$100,000. Everybody would benefit from aid in meeting costs at the disposal plant, not only those now getting the sewers."

Main Purpose

Fazzano stressed that his main purpose in mentioning a revaluation was to equalize property valuations and increase the town's income to meet costs of some of the numerous public improvements now being sought.

Regarding Lefebvre's criticism that the town council this week did not give sufficient explanation why it bypassed the low bidder on the third phase of the sewer job, Barba Construction Co. of West Warwick, and gave the contract to the next lowest bidder, Capaldi Brothers of Providence, Fazzano said he feels he gave a reasonable explanation at the time of the award. At that time he said that, after extensive investigation, the final decision was in the best interests of the town.

Fazzano said the town council intends to balance the budget for the coming Mar. 17 annual town meeting and advise taxpayers that any change in it will mean higher taxes.

"Before the town undertakes new schools, a municipal building, a new fire station, or any of the expensive improvements now being urged," Fazzano said, "there should be a revaluation of property."

"Substantially More"

"Then, at the next assessment, we'd have substantially more money," he said. "If we get the revaluation, then we can see what we have over and above operating costs, see how much money we can borrow and finance, and make a decision what improvement should be undertaken first with money raised from a bond issue."

"My personal opinion is it should go into new schools. I feel schools are a necessity and anybody who says they aren't is just avoiding the issue and kidding himself and the public."

He declared he can "see no sense now in rushing in to borrow a lot of money when we don't know how we're going to pay that money back."

He said new home owners are paying a fair tax on a fair assessment, but older properties are, in some cases, greatly under-assessed and, in other cases, somewhat under-assessed. He said large real estate owners had admitted to him that their assessments could properly and fairly be raised.

As the sewer commission prepares to arrive at a sewer tax rate which owners of property abutting the new sewer lines will pay, Fazzano said, he and Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis are investigating the possibility that sewer bond payments can be spread over a longer period to help keep the tax lower.

W. Warwick Bid Action Defended

PROV. JOURNAL 2/16/53
Sewer Board Chairman
Answers Low Bidder
Who Didn't Get Award

Complaints from a West Warwick contractor that his firm's low bid had been by-passed unjustly in the awarding of a sewer extension job in the town were rejected yesterday by the chairman of the West Warwick sewer commission.

Francis J. Fazzano, town council president and commission head — both bodies are identically constituted—replied to the published statement of the dissatisfied contractor: "It is my sincere opinion that we have acted fairly towards everyone concerned, including, primarily, the people of the town."

The commission action defended by Fazzano resulted in work on the third phase of the town's \$1,200,000 sewer extension project being awarded to Capaldi Brothers Construction Co., of Providence, the second lowest bidder.

Angelo Barba, co-owner of the by-passed Barba Construction Co. of Main Street, said his firm's price was lower by \$28,000 than the Capaldi bid and charged that his firm had received approval from West Warwick engineers and recommendations from others in the business outside of the town.

Fazzano called the local engineering opinion "only a halfhearted recommendation." He said "other factors" taken into consideration by the commission justified overruling the engineers.

"With reference to any recommendations Barba claims," the chairman said, "an investigation of them did not lend us to the conclusion that he should be awarded the job based on said recommendations."

Fazzano said he had talked to some leading contractors in the state and "used their judgment and opinions in arriving at a decision."

The council president said he was "not interested in good or bad politics" in tapping Capaldi Brothers for the job. "We did not get upset over whether the decision was particularly wise or unwise politically."

Within a few days after the bids had been opened," Fazzano disclosed, "Mr. Barba called me and asked to meet me. I suggested to him that I would rather not meet him in my home, but since he did want to come, I told him to."

"He asked me point-blank whether or not the job was going to be awarded to him in view of the fact he was the low bidder and my answer, even at that early date, was that there were many other factors to be considered in addition to the bid price."

DeCiantis Hits RR. Proposal

PROV. JOURNAL 2/17/53

W. Warwick's Town Solicitor Plans War on 'LCL' Change

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Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick said last night he will fight against a proposal by the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad to cancel its special "lcl" (less than carload) rates at Riverpoint station, at a hearing today before the state public utility administrator.

The town council last week instructed DeCiantis to represent the town at the hearing, scheduled in the old Industrial Trust Co. building, 49 Westminster Street, Providence.

"This proposal is more serious than anyone thinks," DeCiantis declared. "I have had calls, and I understand several concerns here now receiving less than carload shipments, because it is much less than transportation by truck, will be affected."

He said he definitely wants the railroad to continue the service. Besides small industries that would be affected, he said, he believes local truckers engaged in delivering such shipments from the railroad siding to their destination also would lose if the service were discontinued.

The railroad's business in less than carload shipments may not be too big now, he said, but a boom in business could change the picture. He said he understands the railroad has been discouraging that type of freight.

He said he is somewhat familiar with the railroad's business from having once served as chief of the state public utilities' division.

The railroad seeks to cancel "lcl" rates not only at Riverpoint, but at Quidnick, Apponaug, Harrisville, Wickford and Pontiac stations.

Sewer Contract Move Disputed

PROV. JOURNAL 2/18/53
Ballou Says His Firm
Urged Low Bidder
On W. Warwick Job

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Taking issue with a statement by Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Sewer Commission chairman, Henry W. Ballou, senior member of Jenks & Ballou, engineers on the town's \$1,200,000 sewer extension job, said yesterday his firm had "unequivocally recommended" award to the lowest bidder on the third phase of the job.

Fazzano, in replying to criticism by Angelo Barba of Barba Construction Co. of West Warwick, low bidder, that his firm was unfairly bypassed when the commission gave the contract to Capaldi Brothers of Providence last week, had declared engineers made only a half-hearted recommendation of award to the lowest bidder.

Ballou also declared yesterday that his firm will not accept increased engineering fees, to which it would be entitled by contract on a percentage basis, as a result of the commission's action in giving the contract to a higher bidder.

Use Low Bid Figure
"It is said that the people of West Warwick suspect that Jenks & Ballou are covertly acquiescent in award to other than the lowest bidder, because Jenks & Ballou would receive a commission on the difference between the lowest bid and the next larger bid," Ballou said.

"The next larger bid is 20 per cent greater than the lowest bid. In amount, that difference is \$28,513.50, on which difference Jenks & Ballou's commission, months hence, would be about \$1710. In order to allay suspicion in the public mind, Jenks & Ballou hereby declare and proclaim that they never will render any bill based on this difference; but, when in the future, Jenks & Ballou make out their bill, they will base their percentage compensation on the amount of the low bid.

"Jenks & Ballou will never accept that \$1710, or any part of it, either directly or indirectly. This will be done by Jenks & Ballou despite the fact that Jenks & Ballou's contractual title to the said difference of \$1710 is beyond question. . . . Jenks & Ballou hope to avoid public obloquy."

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WITHDRAWS NAME
EVENING POST-RECORD 2/22/53
James Allison, manager of Sears-Roebuck & Co., Artie, said today he had withdrawn his company's signature on a petition to town officials that a one-way traffic experiment now underway be discontinued in the business center.

Allison said he had learned the petition was accompanied by a strongly worded letter about which he knew nothing and of which he does not approve.

He said he believes current moves by Police Chief Groleau and the planning board to obtain more free parking lots should take care of the immediate main problem in the center. As far as the one-way plan goes, he said, "the best psychology is to have the place crowded, so long as there are enough parking spaces."

Doesn't Name Fazzano
Ballou did not mention Fazzano by name, but referred to his statement this week, in defense against Barba's criticism, that among other things, the engineers had made a half-hearted recommendation of award to the lowest bidder.

The bids on the third and last phase of the big sewer job were opened Dec. 1, but it was not until last Tuesday that the commission, which is the town council, made an award.

Barba's bid was \$138,181.50, with 300 days completion time, compared with Capaldi's bid of \$166,695 with 220 days completion time.

When the contract award was made, Fazzano said, "After study of all the bids and the amount of time necessary to complete the work, specific items in the bids, which were variable; the previous experience of bidders, their equipment and general qualifications, it was found to be in the best interests of the town to give the contract to Capaldi Brothers of Providence.

It was done after much serious consideration."

Barba's Action
Barba, protesting the action, has said that specifications are clearly defined and would have to be met no matter who did the job. He said his equipment had been inspected and found to be in good condition. In addition, he declared that his experience in construction goes back over 20 years "and we have completed every contract we have undertaken all in accordance with contracts and specifications."

Barba made an issue of the point that the town's own engineers had recommended that his firm be given the contract as low bidder.

Apprised of Ballou's statement last night, Fazzano said, "As far as I am concerned, and I believe I speak for the rest of the commission, the matter is closed."

Railroad Plea Is Opposed

City, Town Solicitors,
Business Leaders
Protest 'LCL' Petition

City and town solicitors and business leaders from North Kingstown, Warwick and West Warwick yesterday opposed the New Haven Railroad's petition to abandon its less-than-carload tariffs at the Apponaug, Harrisville, Wickford, Quindnick, Riverpoint and Pontiac stations.

The road said it would save \$9430 by dropping its unprofitable less-than-carload business at the six stations.

After an all-day session at which only the Wickford and Pontiac stations came up for consideration, George A. McLaughlin, deputy state public utility administrator, recessed the hearing until 10 a.m. Mar. 3.

During testimony on the Pontiac station, Francis E. Nute, representative of the Apponaug Company, asked Shanley if the pickup and delivery service the New Haven gives to the state institutions was not discriminatory, in view of the fact similar service has been available to no other customers in that area since the Howard station was closed.

Shanley agreed that the service was discriminatory. He said it was "just a long-standing agreement" that had been made with the state as a matter of courtesy.

Pickup, Delivery Service

In direct testimony, Shanley had earlier stated that although the railroad intended to drop its agent at Pontiac, it would write into its new tariff a note to guarantee continued pickup and delivery service to the institutions. The tariff would also contain a provision under which the Fruit of the Loom Co. could continue to ship and receive less-than-carload lots at its Pontiac siding.

"You want to tailor this station so you're going to exclude everybody except the cream of the crop," asked Hales Palmer, Warwick city solicitor.

"That's the way it will work out," Shanley said. "We're trying to squeeze more profit out of these stations, as you put it, so that we won't have to come in here and ask for abandonment of the complete lines."

Shanley later said that if new industry comes into the area it serves and asks for service, the road "will gladly expand" its service. There have been no such requests in Rhode Island in recent years, he said.

Charges Monopoly

Michael DeClantis, West Warwick town solicitor, entered the hearing from time to time with a line of questioning through which he said he hoped to show what he called the entire picture of how the New Haven Railroad has monopolized the freight business in Rhode Island.

"We've arrived in the hands of an octopus that is now swallowing us up little by little," DeClantis said. "The time has come to show the entire picture. You'll note they always pick out some little thing that isn't important in itself, but the overall picture is that they have us by the throat on all land and sea transportation."

The only other station considered at yesterday's hearing was the one at Wickford, where Shanley said the savings from dropping the less-than-carload tariff would amount to \$187 a year. He said the Wickford agent would be retained to take care of the railroad's other business in that town.

Produces Figures

He produced figures to show that the less-than-carload business at Wickford has dropped from more than 700 tons in 1947 to 66 tons in 1952, but he was unable to give specific revenue figures for the Wickford business when he was questioned by James H. Donnelly, North Kingstown town solicitor.

Harry M. Baker, president of the North Kingstown Chamber of Commerce, testified the town would be put at a competitive disadvantage in seeking new industries for some of its abandoned mill properties if it lost less-than-carload service.

Baker was unable, however, to tell William E. Boyle, the railroad's general counsel for Rhode Island, what existing industries would suffer through loss of the service.

During the Wickford testimony, DeClantis asked if it were not a fact that the railroad was "competing with itself" through its

wholly-owned subsidiary, the New England Transportation Co. DeClantis charged that the railroad has followed a policy of deliberately trying to "annihilate" its less-than-carload service through the use of its trucking company.

Lambert Is Seen W. Warwick GOP

Postmaster Choice

West Warwick Republican leaders will make a postmastership endorsement from among three men whose names have been referred by the U.S. Civil Service Commission, and Clarence W. Lambert, a veteran who is now assistant postmaster and No. 1 on the list, has the inside track, it was learned last night.

Others on the list are Fulda Geoffroy, former Democratic town clerk, and Henry A. Melancon, who was named acting postmaster last August after Democrats were unable to jockey their candidate into position for appointment.

It was learned reliably that top state GOP leaders have checked, at request of the town committee, to determine whether another examination could be held in which some loyal party workers might have a chance to qualify, but that it was found the present Civil Service Register must stand. Under regulations, the register is complete with three qualified names.

Lambert, a career man in the postal service, is a Republican, according to party men. Democrats tried to bypass him by endorsing Geoffroy when the national Democratic administration was in power, but veterans' groups protested it was a violation of veterans' preference and that stopped action on Geoffroy.

Arctic Traffic Reports Made

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The West Warwick Planning Board last night released the Myers Arctic Traffic Survey report, which recommended road improvements that would cost the town \$158,700, plus other changes, town purchase of several new parking lots and federal-state projects to improve other highways.

The board then proceeded to give town officials present its own recommendations, some of which varied with recommendations of Dwight T. Myers, the traffic consultant. It commended Myers for his exhaustive study, however.

Judge Robert E. Quinn, board chairman, urged Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, to take the Myers plan, the plan board's ideas and suggestions made by Dr. M. Irene Guertin and arrive at a decision.

Myers recommended that Bedard Street be extended north from its intersection at Curson Street to meet Weaver Street and Tucker Street and go through to Gardiner Avenue, which would be widened by condemnation in places.

He called this Stage 1 of his plan and said it would cost \$149,200, including \$79,200 for property condemnation and \$70,000 for road construction, building demolition, wall construction and channelization islands.

\$15,000 to Better Schools Sought

PROV. JOURNAL 2/28/53
West Warwick Group

Wants to Improve Lighting, Add Bubbblers

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The special committee studying findings of the Englehardt survey of West Warwick school buildings last night voted to recommend to the school committee and town council that they ask a \$15,000 appropriation from surplus at the Mar. 17 town meeting to provide adequate lighting and drinking bubblers in schools.

Chairman Vincent J. Lukowicz, who is also school board chairman, said the school board last week told PTA representatives seeking the improvements it would be guided by the recommendation of the study committee on their request for \$15,000 for elementary school lighting alone.

Although some committee members themselves recommend better lighting and took offense, the move for improved lighting received a boost last night when Mrs. Lee V. Spencer, town PTA leader and committee member, presented a petition containing about 500 names and urging the committee to recommend an appropriation for adequate lighting.

An expert lighting survey has indicated that bringing lighting in all schools, including junior and senior high schools, up to modern standards would cost \$38,000. Lukowicz said the \$15,000 should permit improved lighting and bubblers in elementary schools, at any rate.

PTA spokesmen said yesterday they had circulated their petition only in the past three days and could have obtained 5000 signatures with more time. Mrs. Spencer said many who signed the petition, including persons who send their children to parochial schools, thought the petition was for new schools and said they would sign such a petition, also.

\$15,000 FOR LIGHTING AND WATER BUBBLERS AT SCHOOLS FAVORED

West Warwick Committee to Seek Funds Thru Appropriation at Financial Session for Elementary Buildings.

The West Warwick School Building Survey Committee last night recommended to the School Committee and Town Council that they seek a \$15,000 appropriation through the call of the financial town meeting, March 17 to provide adequate lighting and drinking water bubblers where needed in the elementary schools of the town.

Their request is seen to be certain to get the endorsement of the school board and town council. Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis who came to the meeting to confer with reporters on the matters, said when he heard the recommendations, "I don't think that there is question but that your recommendations will be included in the call of the meeting."

The requests were made after each of the seven committee members read their reports on schools they had investigated to make a comparison with the Englehardt, Englehardt and Leggett Survey. All of the reports on the elementary schools turned in by the committee members recommended improvements to the lighting and drinking water system.

The committee made its recommendation of \$15,000 last night so the town council can consider including that amount in a special appropriation in the call of the meeting. The amount will not be included in the school budget which has already been drafted and now is in the hands of the State Department of Education. Consequently the money will not come from income but will be appropriated, if taxpayers approve, from the surplus.

Called "Urgent Problems" After committee members read their reports, Vincent J. Lukowicz survey committee chairman and also school committee chairman asked the group to make their recommendations with view of the question in mind, "Should we make repairs if we intend to build new schools?" Ralph Cinquegrana replied, "Lighting and drinking systems seem to be the urgent problems."

Leo V. Carey said "I think we can't wait five years for a new

school building. I would recommend to the school committee and town council that we start immediately on one elementary school which would eliminate the Cowsett Avenue, New London Avenue and Main Street schools. I think the town council should ask the town meeting for authority to float a bond issue and if the authority is given we should get state aid to start a new school building immediately. We are spending \$30,000 to \$40,000 a year for maintenance." Cinquegrana said the committee should make recommendations for the improvements on which the committee seems to be in agreement before we build new schools."

Carey said he had received a telephone call from a member of a PTA asking him to favor improvements made to the lighting. Carey said "I asked her if the PTA would forget lighting if a new school building was started and she said she thought the PTA would."

Mrs. Lee V. Spencer presented her fellow committee members a petition which she said was circulated the last three days by a small group of mothers of the PTA and which contained 500 signatures all in favor of having improvements made to lighting. She said the petition was circulated because they felt nothing was going to be done.

Main Street School
Committee members Carey and Albert C. Coutu in filing the report on Main Street School, Arctic recommended that school be closed as soon as is possible because of its location and its need for repairs. Their report said the fence, playground, outer brick walls, concrete apron, gutterpipe, floors, stair treads, walls, roof and bubblers were all in need of repair.

New London Avenue School
Also reporting on the New London Avenue School, Carey and Coutu said they were also in agreement with the Englehardt, Englehardt and Leggett survey which recommended several improvements be made to it. Among the property in need of repair they cited the roof which leaks in two places, inside floors, rear doors, basement walls, heating system and playground. The playground they said slopes towards the school building and results in water entering into the school basement.

Their report recommended planning be made for new schools.

Harris Avenue School
Harold C. Knight, who had previously filed a detailed report of repairs needed at Harris Avenue School said in addition last night that the playground although resurfaced last year was still in need

\$15,000 for Lighting and Water Bubblers at Schools Favored (Continued from page 1)

of repair because of a layer of sand on it which makes it hazardous for the children. He said there is inadequate water pressure which causes faulty operation of the toilets and drinking bubblers.

Knight recommended the town purchase the two lots adjacent to school, which both he and Lukowicz said could be purchased from the owner. That land could be used for an extension of the playground and also for an extension of the school building itself in event the town does away with Arctic and the Highland Street Schools.

ANOTHER PARKING LOT HERE

P.V. TIMES 2/24/53

Chief of Police Arthur Groleau said this morning another parking lot able to care for 50 cars will be opened tonight in the Arctic business district. The lot the DiPadua lot is located off Legion Way to the rear of the police station.

Chief Groleau said that the traffic plan will be continued tonight as recommended by the Planning Commission with two exceptions. Buses will be allowed to operate in a northerly direction on Main Street as far as Bank Street, last week when they attempted to operate along St. Mary's Street, traffic tie-ups resulted when the buses had difficulty maneuvering around the sharp corners in that street. Traffic heading towards Arctic Square and wishing to proceed towards Centreville via Main Street will be allowed to enter Main Street at signal of a police officer.

Chief Groleau acknowledged that he had received a petition yesterday from Dr. Irene M. Guertin, signed by several Arctic merchants who spoke out against the traffic plan as constituted.

Highland Street School

Mrs. Spencer's report on the Highland Street School at Phenix was published in detail following the meeting two weeks ago. Her report also recommends closing off of most of the public school section of that school building because of the ever decreasing enrollment and transporting the children of the area to the Harris Avenue School.

Providence Street School
Cinquegrana said that the Englehardt, Englehardt and Leggett report was fairly descriptive. Repairs needed he said were to the bubblers, lighting, stair treads, floors and toilets.

Senior High School
Francis E. Mullen, high school

principal said he found it difficult to agree with the Englehardt survey because remedy of the basic conditions lie at the needs set forth by the school committee and the planning for a new school. He said it was necessary to determine whether or not the financial expenditure warrants the need for a new secondary school. The Englehardt survey recommended two new buildings for the senior high one for shop and arts and the other for physical educational training. Mullen did report repairs needed which were contained in the survey.

Junior High School
At the Junior High which the survey said was in the best of condition in comparison with the other schools, Mullen advised better storage for athletic equipment and the converting of an idle class room there into a well equipped music room.

The committee will hold a closed meeting Monday night to draft its final report to the school committee and town council.

Firemen's Wage Boost Is Urged

P.V. JOURNAL 2/25/53
R.I. Group Also Backs

W. Warwick Unit in Bid for 56-Hour Week

Pawtuxet Valley Office
15 Washington Street
West Warwick

Telephone
VA 1-8200
VA 1-7067

The Rhode Island State Association of Firefighters, AFL, yesterday backed the request of West Warwick firemen for shorter hours and equalization of pay with police, in a statement released by Martin G. Normann, president.

Firemen have asked the town council to increase the fire department budget by about \$24,000 to reduce their work from 84 to 56 hours, a move that would require six more firemen, and to equalize pay rank for rank with police.

"Your firefighters are endeavoring to obtain shorter working hours, in an effort to better protect your lives, homes and property from fire and other emergencies through bigger manpower and better-trained personnel," Normann said.

"Right now your firefighters work 84 hours per week in the stations and are under call all the time they are not on station duty, making a total of 168 hours per week they are serving you, the people of West Warwick."

"While many workers in industry enjoy a 44-hour week, or even less, and are paid time and a half or double time in some instances for working overtime, the firefighters do not receive any extra pay or time off for their overtime spent on call days or nights in responding to fires, emergencies and the many other occasions they are called upon."

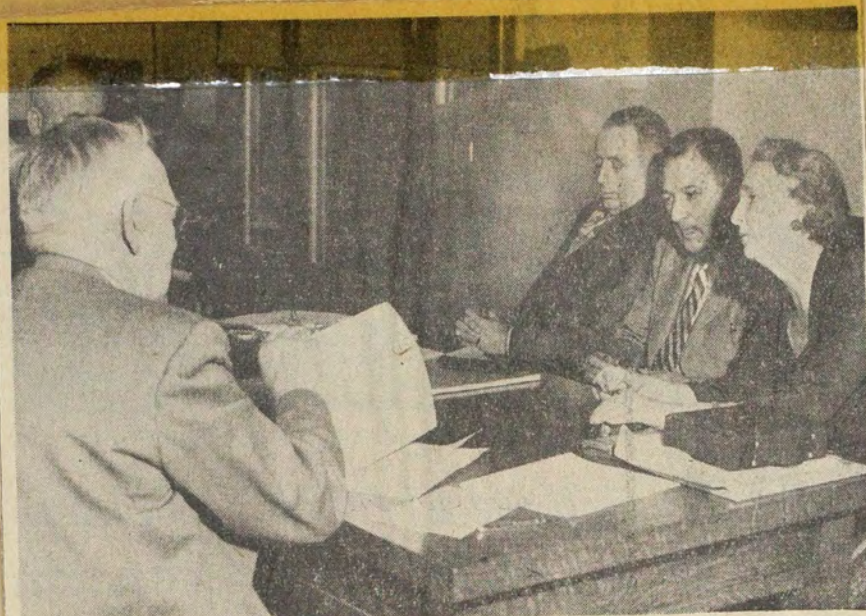
Both Normann and Edward E. Kelley, president of the West Warwick Firefighters, AFL, stressed that firemen are not seeking a blanket 10 per cent raise, but want wage stabilization equal to police pay.

GOP Hits Contract Deplores Council Award

The West Warwick Republican Town Committee is on record condemning the action of the town council, which is the sewer commission, in awarding a contract for the third phase of the \$1,200,000 sewer extension project to other than the low bidder, Ernest E. Lefebvre, publicity officer, said yesterday.

With Francis J. Fazzano, council president, saying that, after extensive study, the sewer commission felt its action in the best interests of the town, the commission recently awarded the contract to the second lowest bidder, Capaldi Brothers Construction Co., Providence, for \$166,695.

The council bypassed the low bidder, Barba Construction Co. of West Warwick, which had bid \$138,181.50, or \$28,513 lower.



LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS for West Warwick school are topic for discussion by committee studying findings presented by Mrs. Lee V. Spencer (right). Others (clockwise), Harold C. Knight, Francis Mullen, principal of high school and Ralph Cinquegrana.

—State Staff Photo

W. Warwick Study Group Asks \$15,000 For Better School Lighting and Bubblers

EVENING BULLETIN
 The special committee studying findings of the Engelhardt survey of West Warwick school buildings last night voted to recommend to the school committee and town council that they ask a \$15,000 appropriation from surplus at the Mar. 17 town meeting to provide adequate lighting and drinking bubblers in schools.

Chairman Vincent J. Lukowicz, who is also school board chairman, said the school board last week told PTA representatives seeking the improvements it would be guided by the recommendation of the study committee on their request for \$15,000 for elementary school lighting alone.

An expert lighting survey has indicated that bringing lighting in all schools, including junior and senior high schools, up to modern standards would cost \$38,000. Lukowicz said the \$15,000 should permit improved lighting and bubblers in elementary schools, at any rate.

PTA spokesmen said yesterday

they had circulated their petition only in the past three days and could have obtained 5000 signatures instead of 500 with more time. Mrs. Lee V. Spencer, town PTA leader and committee member, said many who signed the petition, including persons who send their children to parochial schools, thought the petition was for new schools and said they would sign such a petition, also.

To Include Requests
 Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, town administration leader, who was in the town hall on other business, told the committee he would include the \$15,000 request in the call for the town meeting.

The committee also received final reports on investigations of individual school building faults cited by Engelhardt, but put off compilation of a final report and recommendations until a closed meeting Mar. 2.

The committee met with Engelhardt, except for that of Principal Francis Mullen of the high

school, who reported on the high and junior high schools.

Mullen suggested that any action for improvement on the high school level be delayed until an authorized committee named by the school board make a careful study of the services a secondary school should offer and the financial limitations of the town.

Leo B. Carey and Albert C. Coutu asserted they favor appointment of a committee soon to map and carry out a long range program of new school construction. Carey went as far as to advocate that Cowesett Avenue, New London Avenue and Main Street Schools be supplanted by a new consolidated elementary school as a first step in the next year. He said, with repairs costing so much at old schools, a bond issue should be sought at the coming town meeting.

Recommended for Now
 For the present, Mullen suggested an addition to the shop, located in the old Providence Street School, across the street from the present high school.

At the junior high school, Mullen suggested better storage facilities for athletic equipment he made available and that one of the idle classrooms be converted into a fully equipped music room.

Reporting on Natick School, Ralph Cinquegrana said installation of water bubblers, now lacking, and improved artificial lighting are needed immediately. The outer structure of the building is good, he said.

He said, "It seems unwise now to spend large sums for major improvements, as much as they may be desirable. Any repairs or alterations on a large scale should be considered in the light of any long range program that might be contemplated. It will be necessary to determine overall needs of the entire system."

Cowesett Avenue
 Reporting on Cowesett Avenue School, which Engelhardt recommended be abandoned, along with Arctic School, Lukowicz said floors warp in springtime and should be replaced in some rooms; modern drinking facilities are needed, and the school committee is investigating possibility of hiring them as some industries do; lighting outmoded; toilet facilities outmoded but clean; yard could be enlarged by purchasing nearby land; piping around upper wall on Cowesett Avenue needs repairing; chalkboards are old black slate and should be replaced if no plans develop for a new school; asbestos ceiling needed in boiler room; school yard gravelled, but in good condition; combination heating and air-conditioning shafts are an attribute.

Knight, who reported earlier on Harris Avenue School, said that floors are in bad shape, water pressure is poor and "children do not dare to flush toilets;" yard has been improved, but some stones still stick up; basketball and volleyball equipment obtained by school committee, but not yet set up. He recommended that two lots of land south of the school be bought to enlarge the yard.

Reporting on Main Street School, Arctic, Coutu and Carey said they agreed with Engelhardt that the old building in a mercantile district should be closed as soon as possible. They cited extensive repairs needed. Among numerous recommendations they made on the New London Avenue School, agreeing with Engelhardt there, too, they suggested regrading and surfacing the school yard, fixing roof leaks and replacing worn thresholds.

Mrs. Spencer, who had reported earlier on Highland Street School, part of which is also used by SS. Peter and Paul Parochial School on a rental basis, cited numerous inadequacies. They included: coarse gravel yard; grades one and two in a dark room where lights must be kept on all the time; no wall electric plugs; children must wash hands at bubblers and, lacking paper towels, use old arithmetic papers for drying; cupboard-sized principal's office; teachers' room lacks facilities; no lights or win-

Traffic Plan Protest Filed

EVENING BULLETIN 2/20/53
 Arctic Businessman Presents Petition From 36 Merchants

Dr. M. Irene Guertin, Arctic businessman who has been conducting a one-man fight against one phase of a Friday night traffic plan being tried at request of the planning board, last night presented a protest petition to Police Chief Gro-leau.

Bearing signatures of 36 merchants between Columbus Square and Arctic Square, the petition asks the chief to use his influence with proper authorities to repeal that part of the plan which eliminates all northbound traffic on Main Street between the two squares on Friday nights.

The petition said the request was "for the simple reason that we cannot afford to lose all our good customers and business for that kind of traffic experimentation."

Accompanying the petition was an appeal letter to the town council and planning board. It urged the town leaders to stop the traffic experiment because "a cut in traffic is a cut in business" and asked them instead to concentrate on the extension of Bedard Street recommended by the Myers' traffic survey.

\$78,227 NEEDED FOR PAY BOOSTS

P.V. TIMES 2/20/53

De Ciantis Tells What 10% Raise for Employes Means

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick, said last night that the budget requires \$78,227.55 above last year to provide the town employes the general 10 per cent pay raise they seek this year.

DeCiantis said he wanted to get the figures before the taxpayers as well as a breakdown of what it will mean to the town's fiscal condition because if he is chosen by the administration to present the budget at the Mar. 17 annual financial town meeting he will include the wage demands and then leave the decision to the taxpayers who will be informed of what it means to them. DeCiantis said that the town in the past four and one-half years, and if it approves the pay raises this year, will have given its employes \$150,000 in that period of time for wage advances. If they get the higher pay, our employes will be the best paid in the state, he added.

The town solicitor's statement on the general fiscal condition of the town and the pay raises being sought follow:

In the past statements have been made by some taxpayers giving a wrong impression to the townspeople of the Town of West Warwick with regard to the fiscal administration of the town. This administration has held office for four years, and as one of its members I think it is a good thing to acquaint the people of the manner in which it has conducted the affairs of the town, particularly from a financial standpoint. I make this statement as a citizen and taxpayer of the town and as a member of the administration. It is not my intention here to criticize or belittle any person who has referred to the financial status of this town or to gain any political advantage, but it is a sincere effort on my part to show the taxpayers that the town is in a very good financial condition and that the officeholders and every employe has devoted his or her time in promoting its progress.

There had been statements made that the surplus of the town has been depleted and that withdrawals have been made from the Postwar Fund. This is far from being the truth. The following will give the taxpayers a picture of how economically the business of this town has been transacted in spite of the enormous increase in costs and labor:

The present administration came into power in November, 1948. From that date on to the

end of the fiscal year, April, 1949, it operated on the budget and expenses of the former administration. It is fair therefore that we begin to summarize the finances of the town as of the end of the fiscal year, April, 1949, to the date of the issuing of this statement by me.

Cash Balance

This is the financial picture from April, 1949. There was a cash operating balance in the banks referred to as surplus of \$271,639.32 and a Postwar Fund of about \$145,000. Total, \$416,639.32. Let me tell the taxpayers that at no time has any money from surplus been expended for operating expenses, and let me tell you, most emphatically, that at no time has there been any withdrawals made from the Postwar Fund, but that, as a matter of fact, it has been increased \$50,000 so as of this date there is the sum of \$201,000. Please understand this.

With respect to surplus there has been money withdrawn for the purpose of purchasing specific items which could not be borne by the operating income, such as capital investments and capital improvements. An example of this is the expenditure of \$32,109.58 spent for major school repairs. Other examples are the purchase of a shovel dozer at the cost of \$8956, trucks for the highway department and equipment for other departments of the town. These withdrawals were made by order of the taxpayers at financial town meetings by specific resolutions. From this same fund \$50,000 was withdrawn and deposited in the Postwar Fund as stated above, bringing this fund up to \$201,000.

Today at this very moment, the cash operating balance in our treasury is \$161,687.11 and the Postwar Fund totals \$201,000, a sum total of \$362,687.11 which is about \$53,952.21 less than when we took office, and I daresay that before this fiscal year ends that the surplus will almost equal the surplus of April, 1949.

Isn't this good administration of your finances. Let us consider our own cost of living increases. Consider the improvements we have made to the schools, the equipment provided for the highway department, garbage trucks, shovel dozer, additional trucks and other equipment. The people of the town should feel proud that we have a well-equipped fire department, police department, highway department, including

(Continued on page 8, col. 4)

\$78,227 NEEDED FOR PAY BOOSTS

(Continued from page 1)

garbage collection. All of this equipment was necessary to give the people the service. It came from the surplus, but the economical way in which the business of the town was administered has not resulted in a material reduction of the surplus. We have increased in the past four years the wages of every employe of the town so that today every employe is making a fair and reasonable pay. We have spent approximately 60 to 75 thousand dollars in increased wages. The only thing the administration did throughout the years to meet these additional expenses was to increase the valuation of business properties in the center of Arctic. All of this has been accomplished with a tax rate of \$2.25 which is lower than in any town in the state comparable to size and population. While I am telling the taxpayers that we are in a very good financial condition, I think

I should tell you honestly and straightforwardly that the cost of operating has increased so much that it is almost impossible to continue to operate within the present income, especially now that we are faced with wage increases demanded by all of the departments in the town. The police department asks for shorter hours from 56 to 40 hours.

Shorter Hours

The fire department is also asking for shorter hours from 84 to 56 hours. In these instances, shortening the hours means increased personnel. Increased personnel means more money. Let me say here and now that as far as I am concerned I am not against reasonable hours and reasonable wages. I have never objected to or contested, at any time, any person or group who has attempted to better their working conditions, and I don't intend to be against the demands which have been made by all of the employes of the town. I can say that I was responsible in making the police and fire departments permanent organizations in this town because I felt it was for the best interests of the people. I do feel that as a member of the administration, I should make known to the taxpayers what the increase is going to mean in money because you, the taxpayers, are the ones who are going to make the decision.

Highway Department—A 10% increase has been demanded which will total \$4,628.00—garbage and rubbish \$2,386.00—mosquito control employee \$286.00—Total \$7,300.80.

School Department—Teachers automatic increases \$7,400.00—retirement fund for teachers \$8,914.95—janitors, bus drivers and maintenance men \$1,800.00—superintendent's salary \$500.00—census enumerators \$90.00—Total \$18,884.95.

Clerical Hire—Including all of town clerical help and all other clerical help \$1,907.90. Increase asked by the chairman of the Board of Assessors \$25.00 per week and making the same permanent \$1,300.00—Director of Public Aid who has asked for an increase and also that his job be permanent \$1,515.00—by the Town Clerk \$500.00—Reducing the hours in the police department from 56 hours to 40 hours will make it necessary to hire four additional men, a total of \$20,592.80.

Sewer Department—10% demanded by the sewer department \$1,606.80.

Fire department—10% increase \$4600. Shorter hours from 84 to 56 hours \$20,020. Total \$78,227.45.

This, as the taxpayers can see, is a demand by the employes of the town. We have approximately a \$29,000,000.00 valuation in this town of tangible property and a little more than \$1,000,000.00 of intangible property. At the tax rate of \$2.25 this would bring in an anticipated net income in round figures of \$660,000.00. We also receive other income which amounts to approximately \$312,000.00 which makes a total income of \$973,000.00. Of course, we must realize that we do not collect in any fiscal year the full amount of the tax, and it is safe to say that if we can expect to collect between \$550,000.00 to \$600,000.00 at the most the total income would be \$913,000.00. The operating costs of the town at the present time are very high. It follows therefore that the budget is going to be considerably increased. What it will be we are not prepared to say at this time.

If I am chosen by the administration to present the budget it shall include the demands of all of the town employes, but you, the taxpayers, are the ones who must make the decision.

Eight More Policemen, Nine More Firemen Are Asked for Town Forces

P.V. TIMES 3/15/53 3/10/53

Chiefs of the West Warwick police and fire departments today gave explanations of how the additional men to be added to their forces will be employed if provision is made to hire them at the financial town meeting, Mar. 17.

The budget to be submitted by the administration provides eight additional men for the police and nine more for the fire department.

Chief Arthur Groleau of the police force said that six of the eight new men will be added to the working shifts to shorten the work week from 56 to 40 hours. The seventh man will be used as a traffic officer in charge of responding to calls to check on speeding motorists endangering lives, especially children, to enforce parking regulations and to handle the numerous requests to install traffic signs and to keep them in good condition. He will also be employed to keep the street crosswalk signs at intersections and in front of schools and churches, painted, the chief said. The eighth man will be added to the desk duty assignment at the police station on the night shift which presently is cared for by only one officer.

Chief Lionel P. Gareau of the fire department said that of the present 15 permanent members of his force, 12 work the two platoons, six in each, for 84 hours a week. One of the nine new men

requested is a serviceman who is returning from duty and must be re-employed. To equalize his job, another man must be hired, the chief said. This raises the platoons compliments to 14 and as one man for each two must be hired to reduce the working week from 84 to 56 hours, seven more men are needed, the chief said.

DeCiantis to Retire After Town Session

P.V. TIMES 3/12/53

Budget Makes Provision for \$600 Boost for His Successor

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick hopes to retire from his office as soon as possible after the financial town meeting next week.

This was learned earlier today when reporters on examining budget items in preparation for the budget hearing tonight, came across the item of the office of town solicitor which listed a pay raise of \$600 per year, raising the annual wage of that office to \$1500.

DeCiantis said, "Yes, it's true as it appears there, but that raise is not for me, it will be for someone else, the next and new town solicitor."

The town solicitor explained that he has already asked the Democratic Town Committee to replace him after the town meeting when he has presented the budget on behalf of the town council.

DeCiantis said that the Public Utilities Administration is about to set the date for a hearing on the Kent County Water Authority rate hike issue and he wants to be free from his duties as town solicitor to devote more time to the water rate case. He said the water hearing requires a great deal of preparation and "as far as I am concerned that is one of the most important jobs I have to contend with because it concerns a lot of people in our town."

Surplus for Deficit

DeCiantis would not allow him-

DeCiantis to Retire After Town Session

(Continued from page 1)

self to be quoted as town solicitor but said that speaking as a private taxpayer he thought the best way for the town to meet the deficit as a result of the new proposed \$1,000,004.55 budget would be to use \$100,000 from surplus and borrow the remainder to meet the obligations. The deficit would be \$190,304.55 if the \$2.25 tax rate is maintained and would be \$116,304.55 if a tax rate of \$2.50 was established.

DeCiantis explained that the budget provides an appropriation of \$10,000 for the purpose of making a revaluation of taxable property. "The survey couldn't bring results in more income to the town until the next fiscal year, 1953-54. It's too late to revalue property fairly this year, he said. He had previously stated that he would be opposed to a hurried spot revaluation of property this year because, as he said, it would be "unfair" to the taxpayers.

Hope for the Future

DeCiantis said "As far as I am concerned I see hope for the future of the town of West Warwick. A town which has been able to operate as economically and on the smallest tax rate in comparison with any other town in the state during a period when costs of living, construction and materials have rocketed sky high, and has received the services that are not enjoyed by other towns, need not fear."

Among the raises afforded in the proposed \$1,000,004.55 budget are the following: general government—town clerk, \$300 to \$3316 per year; tax assessor chairman, \$1300 to \$3900; town solicitor, \$600 to \$1500; director of public aid, \$515 to \$2000; town hall janitor, \$208 to \$2288; building inspector, \$228.80 to \$2516.80.

Employees Seek \$78,227 More In West Warwick

EVENING BULLETIN 2/20/53

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick today announced that the town's administrative administration is faced with requests for salary raises from nearly all town employees, hiring of extra men to reduce working hours of firemen and policemen, and other personnel costs that add up to \$78,227.

In a statement in which he cited "efficient management" since Democrats took over town government in 1948, DeCiantis said that if he is chosen by the administration to present the budget at the Mar. 17 annual town meeting, "it shall include the demands of all of the town employees, but you, the taxpayers, are the ones who must make the decision."

"The operating costs of the town at the present time are very high," he said. "It follows, therefore, that the budget is going to be considerably increased. What it will be we are not prepared to say at this time."

"Let me say, here and now, that as far as I am concerned, I am not against reasonable hours and reasonable wages. I have never objected to or contested, at any time, any person or group who has attempted to better their working conditions, and I don't intend to be against the demands which have been made by all the employees of the town."

"I can say that I was responsible for making the police and fire departments permanent organizations because I felt it was for the best interests of the people. I do feel that, as a member of the administration, I should make known to the taxpayers what the increase is going to mean in money because they are the ones who are going to make the decision."

Raise Requests Listed

He listed raise requests as follows:

Highway department—A 10 per cent raise has been demanded which will mean \$4628 more for highway workers; \$2386.80 for garbage and rubbish collectors; \$286, mosquito control employe; total, \$7300.80.

School department—Teachers' automatic increases, \$7400; retirement fund for teachers, \$8914.95; raises for janitors, bus drivers and maintenance men, \$1800; raise for Dr. Maisie E. Quinn, superintendent, from \$5600 to \$6100; census enumerators, \$90; total, \$18,884.95.

Clerical hire—Ten per cent raise for all town clerical help, \$1907.90.

Tax assessors—Increase asked by Chairman Hermenegilde J. Nadeau for chairman from \$50 to \$75 per week and making the same permanent, \$1300.

Public welfare department—Raise from \$1485 to \$3000 for Director Joseph Laurence, making the post permanent, \$1515.

Town Clerk Seeks \$500
Town clerk—Raise of \$500 for Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb, making salary about \$3200.

Police department—Reducing hours in the police department from 56 to 40 hours will make it necessary to hire four more men, costing \$20,592.

Sewer department—Ten per cent raise for all employes, \$1600.00.

Fire department—Ten per cent increase costing \$4600; hiring additional men to shorten hours from 84 to 56 hours a week, \$20,020.

Granting the raises by town meeting appropriation will make West Warwick town employes the best paid of any town in the state, DeCiantis said.

Expected Revenue

He pointed out the town has about a \$29,000,000 valuation of tangible property and a little more than \$1,000,000 of intangible property. At the present tax rate of \$2.25, this would bring in an anticipated net income in round figures of \$660,000 and other income of about \$312,000 would bring expected revenue up to \$972,000.

However, DeCiantis pointed out the town does not collect the full amount of the tax in any fiscal year, and it is safe to expect to collect between \$550,000 to \$600,000. This would bring total revenue and income at most to \$912,000, he said.

DeCiantis said he wanted to set the record straight and correct any "wrong impression" that the town's post war fund has been used or that surplus in another account has been used for operating expenses. He said the town's business has been run economically despite enormous increases in costs and labor.

Four Year Record

He said the present administration came into power in November, 1948, but from that date to the end of the fiscal year in April, 1949, it operated on the budget and expenses of the previous administration. Therefore, its financial record should start from April, 1949, he said.

In April, 1949, there was a cash operating balance in the banks, referred to as surplus, of \$271,639.32 and a postwar fund of about \$145,000, he said, for a total of \$416,639.32.

"Let me tell the taxpayers that, at no time, has any money from surplus been expended for operating expenses, and let me tell you most emphatically that at no time have there been any withdrawals made from the post war fund, but that . . . it has been increased \$50,000, so as of this date there is the sum of \$201,000.

He said there had been money used from the surplus fund, as distinguished from the post war fund, to buy items which could not be borne by operating income, such as capital investments and capital improvements. As examples, he cited

\$32,109.58 for major school repairs, \$8956 for a shovel dozer, trucks for the highway department and equipment for other town departments. The withdrawals were all by town meeting approval of specific resolutions, he noted.

\$50,000 Transferred

From surplus, \$50,000 was withdrawn with town meeting approval and deposited in the post war fund, bringing it up to \$201,000, he said.

"Today the cash operating balance in the treasury is \$161,687.11 and the postwar fund totals \$201,000, a total of \$362,687.11, which is \$53,952 less than when we took office, and I daresay that before this fiscal year ends the surplus will almost equal the surplus of April, 1949," he continued.

Improvements to schools, equipment for the highway department, garbage trucks, shovel dozer and additional trucks and other equipment; a well equipped fire department, police department, highway department, including garbage collection—all were necessary to give the people service," he said. "It came from surplus, but the economical way in which the business of the town was administered has not resulted in a material reduction of the surplus."

"We have increased in the past four years the wages of every employe of the town so that today every employe is making a fair and reasonable pay. We have spent approximately \$60,000-\$75,000 in increased wages. The only thing the administration did throughout the years to meet these additional expenses was to increase the valuations of business properties in the center of Arctic.

"All of this has been accomplished with a tax rate of \$2.25, which is the lowest of any town in the state comparable in size and population. While I am telling the taxpayers that we are in a very good financial condition, I think I should say honestly and straightforwardly that cost of operating has increased so much that it is almost impossible to continue to operate within the present income, especially now that we are faced with wage increases demanded by all the departments of the town."

West Warwick Budget

The recommended West Warwick million dollar budget includes:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Town Officers	\$ 27,783.40
Clerical, Town Hall	15,200.00
Supplies and Expense	4,000.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	2,800.00
District meetings	1,300.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Town Officers' Bonds	750.00
Memorial Services	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	5,000.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,588.00
Supplies	50.00
PROTECTION	
Police—Personnel	104,909.40
Supplies	14,256.00
Equipment	2,000.00
Ambulance	1,200.00
Fire—Personnel	80,939.80
Supplies	23,660.00
Street Lighting	29,500.00
Civilian Defense	500.00
SANITATION	
Sewer Dept.—Personnel	25,654.80
Supplies	18,263.00
Garbage, Rubbish—Personnel	23,223.20
Supplies	3,476.00
Town Dump—Personnel	7,207.20
Supplies	1,300.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	
Maintenance—Personnel	56,524.00
Supplies	22,200.00
Construction and Improvements	10,000.00
Sidewalk Construction	2,500.00
EDUCATION	
Schools	320,611.00
Libraries	2,500.00
Teachers' Pensions	9,000.00
PUBLIC WELFARE	
Personnel	4,115.80
Other	14,540.00
DEBT SERVICE	
Bond and Note Retirement	52,000.00
Interest on Bonds and Notes	48,226.25
Interest on Tax Notes	1,000.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES	
Mosquito Control—Personnel	3,151.50
Other	135.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	2,300.00
Kent County Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER	
So. R. I. Farm Bureau	300.00
Playgrounds and Recreation	6,000.00
Social Security	5,000.00
Revaluation of Taxable Property	10,000.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$1,000,004.55
Estimated Revenue:	
State Aid	89,200.00
Sewer Assessment Fund	25,000.00
Licenses, fees, etc.	64,500.00
Total Other Revenue	178,700.00
Revenue from Property Tax at \$2.25 Rate	630,000.00
Total Estimated Revenue	\$808,700.00
Excess of appropriation over estimated revenue would result in deficit of \$191,304.55.	

West Warwick's \$1-Million Budget

PROV. JOURNAL 3/10/53
The recommended West Warwick million dollar budget includes:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Town Officers	\$ 28,783.40
Clerical, Town Hall	15,200.00
Supplies and Expense	4,000.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	2,800.00
District meetings	1,300.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Town Officers' Bonds	750.00
Memorial Services	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	5,000.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,588.00
Supplies	50.00
PROTECTION	
Police—Personnel	104,909.40
Supplies	14,256.00
Equipment	2,000.00
Ambulance	1,200.00
Fire—Personnel	80,939.80
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Civilian Defense	500.00
SANITATION	
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Supplies	18,263.00
Garbage, Rubbish—Personnel	23,223.20
Supplies	3,476.00
Town Dump—Personnel	7,207.20
Supplies	1,300.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	
Maintenance—Personnel	56,524.00
Supplies	22,200.00
Construction and Improvements	10,000.00
Sidewalk Construction	2,500.00
EDUCATION	
Schools	320,611.00
Libraries	2,500.00
Teachers' Pensions	9,000.00
PUBLIC WELFARE	
Personnel	4,115.80
Other	14,540.00
DEBT SERVICE	
Bond and Note Retirement	52,000.00
Interest on Bonds and Notes	48,226.25
Interest on Tax Notes	1,000.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES	
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Other	135.00
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Kent County Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER	
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Playgrounds and Recreation	6,000.00
Social Security	5,000.00
Revaluation of Taxable Property	10,000.00
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Estimated Revenue:	
State Aid	89,200.00
Sewer Assessment Fund	25,000.00
Licenses, fees, etc.	64,500.00
Total Other Revenue	178,700.00
Revenue from Property Tax at \$2.25 Rate	630,000.00
Total Estimated Revenue	\$808,700.00
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Town of West Warwick—Comparative Budgets

R.V. Mos 3/9/53

	12 mos. 1951-52 Appropriations	10 mos. 1952-53 Appropriations	12 mos. 1953-54	Salary Increases	12 mos. Revised	Additional Employees	12 mos. Revised
GENERAL GOVERNMENT—							
Town Officers	\$ 23,946.92	\$ 20,680.56	\$ 24,571.60	\$ 4,211.80	\$ 28,783.40		\$ 27,783.40
Clerical Town Hall	13,520.00	11,135.00	13,900.00	1,300.00	15,200.00		15,200.00
Supplies and Expense	4,700.00	3,500.00	4,000.00		4,000.00		4,000.00
Service Memorial	300.00	300.00	300.00		300.00		300.00
Telephones	3,700.00	3,000.00	3,200.00		3,300.00		3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	2,500.00	2,100.00	2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00
District Meetings	3,000.00	3,500.00	1,500.00		1,500.00		1,500.00
Insurance	11,500.00	10,000.00	12,000.00		12,000.00		12,000.00
Town Officers Bonds	750.00	750.00	750.00		750.00		750.00
Memorial Services	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00		1,500.00		1,500.00
Miscellaneous	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00		5,000.00		5,000.00
Painting Town Hall		1,700.00					
Board of Canvassers							
Personal		6,443.40	3,350.00	208.00	8,888.00		8,588.00
Supplies		856.60	50.00		50.00		50.00
PROTECTION—							
Police—Personnel	\$ 82,336.00	\$ 60,140.00	\$ 84,317.40		\$ 84,317.40 (B)	\$ 20,562.00	\$ 104,909.40
Supplies	12,900.00	11,945.00	14,256.00		14,256.00		14,256.00
Equipment	1,500.00	1,500.00	2,000.00		2,000.00		2,000.00
Ambulance	800.00	870.00	1,200.00		1,200.00		1,200.00
Fire—Personnel	50,828.00	47,219.16	65,400.00 (E)	5,519.80	70,919.80 (C)	20,020.00	90,939.80
Supplies	20,695.00	18,540.00	23,600.00		23,600.00		23,600.00
Street Lighting	20,200.00	24,600.00	29,500.00		29,500.00		29,500.00
Civilian Defense	10,000.00	2,000.00	500.00		500.00		500.00
SANITATION—							
Sewer—Personnel	\$ 22,438.00	\$ 20,141.00	\$ 23,748.00	\$ 1,906.80	\$ 25,654.80		\$ 25,654.80
Supplies	10,102.00	10,350.00	18,203.00		18,203.00		18,203.00
Sewer Disposal Plant	5,000.00	2,600.00					
Garbage—Rubbish—							
Personnel	21,112.00	17,458.00	21,112.00	2,111.20	23,223.20		23,223.20
Supplies	2,888.00	2,642.00	3,474.00		3,474.00		3,474.00
Town Dump—Personnel			7,207.20		7,207.20		7,207.20
Supplies			1,500.00		1,500.00		1,500.00
HIGHWAY—							
Maintenance—Personnel	\$ 48,178.00	\$ 42,140.00	\$ 51,808.00	\$ 4,628.00	\$ 56,436.00		\$ 56,436.00
Supplies	2,357.00	17,707.20	22,200.00		22,200.00		22,200.00
Construction & Improvements	10,000.00	9,000.00	10,000.00		10,000.00		10,000.00
Reconstructing							
Highway Garage	5,000.00						5,000.00
Sidewalk Construction	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00
EDUCATION—							
Schools	\$ 274,847.00	\$ 259,496.44	\$ 309,207.00	\$ 11,404.00	\$ 320,611.00		\$ 320,611.00
Libraries	2,500.00	2,350.00	2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00
Teachers Pension	8,200.00	8,475.00	9,000.00		9,000.00		9,000.00
PUBLIC WELFARE—							
Personnel	\$ 3,840.20	\$ 3,175.55	\$ 3,959.80	\$ 156.00	\$ 4,115.80		\$ 4,115.80
Other	11,759.80	11,000.00	14,840.20		14,840.20		14,840.20
DEBT SERVICE—							
Bond & Notes							
Retirement (A)	\$ 52,000.00	(A) \$ 52,000.00	(A) \$ 52,000.00		(A) \$ 52,000.00		(A) \$ 52,000.00
Interest on Bonds & Notes	19,437.50	16,917.50	45,226.25		45,226.25		45,226.25
Interest on Tax Notes			1,000.00		1,000.00		1,000.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES—							
Mosquito Control—							
Personnel	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,865.00	\$ 2,865.00	\$ 286.50	\$ 3,151.50		\$ 3,151.50
Other	600.00	600.00	135.00		135.00		135.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	1,000.00	1,000.00	2,500.00		2,500.00		2,500.00
Kent County Hospital		5,000.00	5,000.00		5,000.00		5,000.00
OTHER—							
So. R. I. Farm Bureau	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00		\$ 800.00		\$ 800.00
Playgrounds & Recreation	5,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00		6,000.00		6,000.00
Social Security	4,000.00	3,235.00	5,000.00		5,000.00		5,000.00
Revaluation of Taxable			10,000.00		10,000.00		10,000.00
Property							
TOTAL APPROPRIATIONS ..	\$ 774,455.42	\$ 715,201.41	\$ 827,660.45	\$ 31,732.10	\$ 859,392.55	\$ 40,612.00	\$ 1,000,004.55
ESTIMATED REVENUE—							
State Aid	\$ 77,500.00	\$ 74,500.00	\$ 89,200.00				
Sewer Assessment Fund	25,000.00	25,000.00	25,000.00				
Licenses, Fees, etc.	68,000.00	70,000.00	64,500.00				
Total other Revenue	\$ 170,500.00	\$ 169,500.00	\$ 178,700.00				
Property Taxes							
Rate \$2.25	\$ 605,000.00	\$ 535,000.00	\$ 630,000.00				
Total Estimate Revenue ..	\$ 775,500.00	\$ 704,500.00	\$ 808,700.00		\$ 808,700.00		\$ 808,700.00
Unappropriated Surplus	\$ 1,044.52	Def. \$ 10,701.41	Def. \$ 118,960.45		Def. \$ 150,692.55		Def. \$ 190,304.55
ESTIMATED REVENUE WITH VARIOUS TAX RATES—							
Other Revenue	\$ 178,700.00	\$ 178,700.00	\$ 178,700.00	\$ 178,700.00	\$ 178,700.00		\$ 178,700.00
Taxes at \$2.30	645,000.00	645,000.00	645,000.00		645,000.00		645,000.00
Taxes at \$2.35	680,000.00	680,000.00	680,000.00		680,000.00		680,000.00
Taxes at \$2.40	675,000.00	675,000.00	675,000.00		675,000.00		675,000.00
Taxes at \$2.45	680,000.00	680,000.00	680,000.00		680,000.00		680,000.00
Taxes at \$2.50	670,000.00	670,000.00	670,000.00		670,000.00		670,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 823,700.00	\$ 823,700.00	\$ 823,700.00	\$ 823,700.00	\$ 823,700.00		\$ 823,700.00

(A)—Offset by \$25,000.00 from Sewer Assessment Fund.
 (B)—6 men at \$3,432.00 for 40-hour week.
 (C)—7 men at \$2,866 for 56-hour week.
 (D)—Married teachers to be put on Regular Salary Schedule.
 (E)—To equalize weekly wages of Firemen and Police.
 (Def.)—Deficit.

MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET CALLS FOR PAY INCREASES

P.V. TIMES 3/9/53

West Warwick Tax Rate Boost Believed Necessary

A record-breaking \$1,000,004.55 budget containing salary raises for all the town's hired employees and 17 additional personnel for the police and fire departments will be submitted to taxpayers of West Warwick for their approval at the financial town meeting, Mar. 17.

The million dollar budget has the approval of the town administration in view of the fact it is a deficit budget and would be even if the budget without salary and new personnel provisions and amounting to \$927,660.45, was adopted.

The town's income is figured for 1953-54 to amount to \$803,700 at the present \$2.25 tax rate and including state aid. At the maxi-

mum \$2.50 tax rate, revenue is figured at \$883,700.

If the tax rate is fixed at \$2.50 and the taxpayers approve the \$1,000,004.55 budget making provision for salary hikes and new personnel the deficit would be \$116,304.55. If no tax raise was affected the deficit would be \$190,304.55.

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, who was deputized by the town council to release the budget, said, in regard to the \$116,304.55 deficit, "We have got to get the money, but that is a matter to be determined as we go along. He said that the administration in receipt of the salary and new employee demands feels that they should be made now to take care of the wage situation 'once and for all.' DeCiantis said 'Demands are being made everywhere in neighboring towns and cities for more pay and shorter hours. Warwick has reduced the work week for its police force to 44 hours. Our fire department employees now work from 84 to 94 hours per week and this budget affects a 56-hour week.

"Once and for All"

"Under these circumstances there must be a settlement of this matter once and for all so that the administration and government of the town will not have to be meeting these situations each year. We have got to get the money, but that is a matter to be de-

(Continued on page 3, col. 1)

Million Dollar Budget Calls for Pay Increases (Continued from page 1)

termined as we go along. We have to pick up \$190,000. The taxpayers must know I have tried to place before them the whole picture of revenue, expenditures and deficit. I have confined comparisons not to one but have gone back three years. Now it is up to the taxpayers.

"If the million dollar budget is adopted, West Warwick will this year provide \$30,732.10 for pay raises for its clerical and teacher employees and to bring the wages of the firemen equal to the wages of the policemen; \$40,612 will be for the additional employees in the police and fire departments to provide them with shorter working hours; \$9900 is for the automatic raises for the school teachers. With this \$81,344.10 for raises this year it will mean that West Warwick has spent this year and the past four years \$241,244 for wage increases to its employees. I think this town has been pretty good to its employees."

Need Married Teachers

DeCiantis pointed out that the basic budget calls for \$11,404 in the school department to pay married teachers. West Warwick like other communities, is faced with a teacher shortage in the elementary schools and to get them, the town must also hire married women and to hire them they must start them in at a salary equivalent to the teacher's wage scale instead of at the minimum as has been the previous case in the town, DeCiantis said.

In presenting a comparative budget, the town solicitor said, "The official budgets are the only ones that could be included in this report. But to show the difference in expenses between what we are appropriating this year on a 12-month basis and last year because last year was a 10-month budget, would be difficult. So, to get true picture, I have the total for a 12-month budget for last year which is \$829,911.94. The actual difference would be \$97,660.45.

Increase for Nurses

"The \$97,000 really reflects some major appropriations; the \$32,400 for the new sewer bond notes and interest; \$10,000 for the revaluation of tax property to benefit the town in 1954; the approximate \$12,000 for two additional firemen and two additional policemen above the six men to be added to the police department and the seven to be added to the fire force." DeCiantis said that the fire department will receive nine more men, including one who is returning to duty and another who will also become a permanent member and who is now working for the department the same as the permanent members are. The police department will receive eight more employees, including two for regular routine patrol duty; \$8707 is for the shovel loader and truck drivers at the town dump and also for their supplies. An increase of \$1500 is provided to the Pawtuxet Valley Visiting Nurses Association, who were hard-hit this year when regular insurance income was withheld.

He said he has tried to scrape and scrimp, and bring about a budget as economical as possible with which to operate the town. All of the facts with respect to the financial condition of the town have been set forth to the taxpayers. It is now the duty of the taxpayers to consider the facts and act accordingly at the town meeting.

Council Budget Tops \$1,000,000

PROV. JOURNAL 3/10/53
Even Tax Rate Boost

Still Would Leave

Deficit at W. Warwick

The days of low taxes in West Warwick are nearing an end, it became apparent yesterday with the revelation that the town administration will present a budget totaling \$1,004,004.55 at the annual town meeting Mar. 17.

If the budget is approved, it will mark the first time in the town's history it has passed the million-dollar mark.

The budget would provide for salary raises and other benefits demanded by all town employees. These include shortening the work week of police from 56 to 40 hours, requiring six more men and costing \$20,592; shortening firemen's work week from 84-94 hours to 56 hours, requiring seven more men and costing \$20,020; raising present firemen's pay to equal police pay; and raising practically all town employees 10 per cent.

The budget is \$225,549.13 higher than last year's \$774,455.42, which was for only a 10-month fiscal year because of a change in the time of the town meeting. The last full 12-month appropriation was \$774,455.42 in 1951.

\$191,304 Short

With the present \$2.25 per \$100 valuation town tax expected to bring in \$630,000 and \$178,700 coming in from other revenue sources, total expected revenue is \$808,700. Thus, if the \$1,000,004.55 budget is passed by taxpayers, there would be a deficit of \$191,304.55 under the present \$2.25 tax rate and property valuations.

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who released the budget and has been chosen to present it at the meeting, said that, even if the tax rate were raised to \$2.50, it would bring in only \$75,000 more, or a total from town taxation of \$883,700. That would still leave a deficit of \$116,304.55.

To meet the revenue problem, the administration has included in the budget \$10,000 to finance a revaluation of property to be accomplished by local assessors with expert advisory help.

The town, as it faces unprecedented fiscal problems, has one saving grace. At the end of last fiscal year it had an operating surplus, accumulated over the years, of about \$161,000, and DeCiantis has said it should be about the same this year. However, the town meeting call, previously announced, already contains resolutions calling for spending \$52,500 of the surplus for capital improvements and equipment.

Firemen, Police Active

Police and firemen are waging a concerted campaign for the improvement of their status—particularly firemen, who have placed billboards urging a 56-hour week in the area of the junior high school, town meeting place. They are said to have support of many who feel that they are willing to pay more taxes, inasmuch as, since establishment of the permanent fire department, they get fire protection without paying a separate tax to the former fire districts.

The administration also has prepared two lesser, alternative budgets, although it plans to present the one and leave it to taxpayers to decide. But the alternative budgets, if approved, also would result in deficits, even if the tax rate were raised to \$2.50.

\$1,004,004 West Warwick Budget Hikes Town Pay

Even Tax Raise

Won't Stop Deficit

Bulletin 3/19/53

The days of low taxes in West Warwick are nearing an end, it became apparent today with the revelation that the town administration will present a budget totaling \$1,004,004.55 at the annual town meeting Mar. 17.

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The administration also has prepared two lesser, alternative budgets, although it plans to present the big one and leave it to taxpayers to decide. But the alternative budgets, if approved, also would result in deficits, even if the tax rate were raised to \$2.50.

One of them, eliminating only the \$20,592 for extra men to give the police a 40-hour week and the \$20,020 cost of extra men to shorten the firemen's week, or a total of \$40,612, would make a total budget of \$959,392.55. With the existing tax rate, this budget would mean a deficit of \$50,692.55. Even with the additional \$75,000 from a \$2.50 tax rate, it would mean a deficit of \$75,692.55.

The other alternative budget would not only eliminate the \$40,612 shorter police and firemen's hours, but would also leave out all proposed salary raises and \$11,404 which DeCiantis revealed has been proposed by the school committee to keep women teachers who marry on the salary schedule. (They now revert to the minimum pay upon marriage.)

Still a Deficit

This second alternative budget would cut out \$31,732.10, covering cost of raises and the new pay proposal for married women teachers. It would total \$927,660.45. In case of approval of this budget, there would still be a deficit amounting to \$118,960.45 with the present rate and \$43,960.45 if the rate were boosted to \$2.50.

The \$31,732.10 cost of raises and new teacher personnel cost breaks down as follows: town officers, \$3211.80; town hall clerical help, \$1300; canvassing authority clerk, \$208; equalizing firemen's pay with police rank for rank, \$5519.80; sewer personnel, \$1906.80; garbage and rubbish collection personnel, \$2111.20; highway department personnel, \$4628; keeping married women teachers on regular pay schedule, \$11,404; public welfare clerk's pay raise, \$156; mosquito control personnel pay raise, \$286.50.

The lowest of the three budgets still is high, DeCiantis said, partially because it includes a new item of \$32,000 to pay interest on the new \$1,200,000 sewer extension bond issue. There is also the new expenditure of \$10,000 to finance the revaluation.

Also provided for in the lowest budget are two more policemen, requested by Chief Groleau because of increased patrol activities, and two more firemen and a part-time fire alarm supervisor, all costing \$12,000-\$13,000. DeCiantis said one fireman who left is returning and Chief Gareau of the fire department says he needs still another, in addition to the supervisor. DeCiantis said, (These additional men are separate from the six at \$3432 per year asked by police to effect their 40-hour week and the seven at \$2860 a year for the firemen's 56-hour week.)

Money for Dump

In the lowest budget, too, is a new item of \$8707 for supplies and a bulldozer operator and a truck driver to take care of a proposed new sanitary land cover system at the town dump. The operator would receive \$75 a week and the driver, \$63.50.

The lowest budget also increases the grant to the Pawtuxet Valley Visiting Nurses' Association from \$100 to \$2500. The association asked more aid because the Red Feather has cut its allotment, owing to failure of its drive to make quota, and insurance companies are withdrawing their grants.

DeCiantis pointed out that a 12-month budget was prepared last year, in the event that taxpayers did not approve advancing time of the town meeting by two months, from May to March. They did approve the change, however, making a 10-month budget mandatory for the fiscal year just ended. But the hypothetical 12-month budget was \$829,911.94, he said, which would make the currently lowest budget possibility \$97,748.51 higher than it.

The proposed new basic school budget of \$309,207 is about \$5000 higher than it was in last year's hypothetical 12-month budget, he said.

"I am going to present the million-dollar budget for the administration," DeCiantis said. "The administration feels that our employees have made these requests for more money and shorter hours, just as they are in all towns and cities."

He said the administration has tried to bring up employees' pay. Since 1949, teachers have received \$65,000 in raises, he said. In 1951, taxpayers approved \$60,000 for various raises, last year police received 20 per cent and firemen, 10 per cent raises, he said. He said that raises in recent years totalled \$145,000.

Saying that, if the largest budget is approved, taxpayers will have spent about \$241,000 for salary raises and benefits in the past five years, DeCiantis declared, "I think this town has been pretty good to its employees."

The administration is recommending the largest budget for adoption, with the hope that town employees will give the government and taxpayers a breather for a number of years, he said.

He stressed that it will mean finding more revenue to the tune of \$190,000. "You taxpayers have a right to have the whole financial picture placed before you and that is what the administration is doing," he said. "You know the revenue, the expenses, the deficits with each possible budget. Now it's up to you."

He included a table showing how much more could be raised by increasing the present \$2.25 tax rate varying amounts, with present property valuations, as follows: Tax rate of \$2.30, \$10,000; \$2.35, \$30,000; \$2.40, \$45,000; \$2.45, \$60,000; \$2.50, \$75,000.

West Warwick Tax Collections

Total \$561,455

Bulletin 3/12/53

The annual report of Miss Amy Saute, West Warwick tax collector, released today, showed collections totalling \$561,455.49 during the 10-month fiscal year just ended.

Uncollected taxes, including annual payments of \$8264 which the Kent County Water Authority failed to make in the past three years, totalled \$193,703.24.

The table of collected and uncollected taxes follows:

Year	Collected	Uncollected
1952	\$478,387.00	\$150,307.92
1951	73,859.83	18,192.73
1950	2,343.26	11,130.85
1949	982.35	2,334.37
1948	488.23	1,400.28
1947	481.63	1,100.31
1946	458.82	1,262.17
1945	297.24	1,129.22
1944	186.44	852.25
1943	213.80	1,161.28
1942	248.08	1,474.27
1941	228.87	1,702.69
1940	81.50	1,131.68
1939	46.80	876.07
1938	46.80	876.07
1937	40.30	686.60
1936	8.60	207.40

During the year, there were collections of \$2810.18 in interest; \$7 in poll taxes; and \$148.71 in tax penalties.

Sewer assessment collections of all kinds amounted to \$37,040.05. The balance of sewer assessment taxes uncollected is set at \$355,831.34.

Back taxes collected for the former Arctic Fire District were \$144.23 and for the former Natick Fire District, \$35.83.

Kent Water Authority Asks Support for 150% Increase in Rates

New Meeting Set for Mar. 24

Bulletin 3/12/53
General Discussion Of Situation Scheduled With Municipalities

Demand for more water supplies to serve a 30 per cent increase in water customers since 1947, need two new standpipes in East Greenwich and Arctic and all-around higher costs were cited by the Kent County Water Authority today, in its bid for a 150 per cent increase in rates.

Explanations why the increase is necessary are listed in a leaflet containing answers to questions asked by officials of communities served by the authority at a meeting Jan. 14 and mailed to them yesterday.

The authority, which has been in hot water since it raised its rates and later had them rolled back and was placed under public utility control by the General Assembly, had been asked the questions at a meeting called by it to seek support for its rate boost, now pending before the state public utility administrator.

Authority's Warning

If no increase is granted, the authority probably will be taken over by bondholders through some judicial proceeding, it warned. That could mean long, expensive court action, during which no progress would be made in the development of a system which is servicing a rapidly growing area, it said.

The authority included an invitation with the circulars to another meeting with town officers for a general discussion of the situation Mar. 24 at 8 p.m. in its West Warwick office.

Regarding the question raised that the water authority's present plight is not consistent with praise of its system in the Haydock Report of 1947 and a bond buyers' brochure published by Paine, Webber, Jackson & Curtis in 1950, the authority said that supplies that were adequate in 1947 are not now.

"It must be recognized that the brochure was prepared for the purpose of promoting the sales of the bonds, and it is only natural that such a statement would present the best possible view of the situation," it said.

"The fact, as then stated, that the water supply was adequate does not mean that there was no room for improvement, or that increasing development of the area would not require an increase in supply."

On Close Margin

The authority said the fact it has continued to operate indicates the supply is adequate, but added that experience has shown it is operating on a close margin and a slight increase in use of a bad drought could easily bring on a critical shortage of water.

The Scituate Reservoir tie-in, held up for lack of funds, would eliminate completely and for some time to come any danger of a shortage, it asserted. Also important, it said, is the fact Scituate water is of better quality.

There has been no increase in rates since 1917, the authority declares. It lists comparisons of labor and material costs of today and 1929 that show laborers' pay up from 42 cents to \$1.46 an hour and material costs up from 73.4 per cent to 286.3 per cent.

There have been no changes since the 1947 Haydock report to indicate that further capital expenditures were necessary, the authority said. It pointed out that, at that time, it was apparent new standpipes were needed and additional water supplies had to be found in the northwesterly end of the system. Cost of these originally-needed improvements is greater now, it said.

As new residents move into the area, on top of the 30 per cent customers increase since 1947, the situation is going to get more critical, it was pointed out.

More Revenue Needed

Additional revenue is needed, it said, to meet outstanding indebtedness of \$125,000, including about \$75,000 overdue to cities and towns in lieu of taxes; to cover a deficiency of nearly \$100,000 in the bond account; and to provide about \$250,000 for the two new standpipes and a pumping station at Scituate. (The lines are laid to Scituate.)

Under present rates, it explains, most customers pay 30 cents per 1000 gallons up to 666,667 gallons, with annual minimum charge of \$15 for not over 50,000 gallons. But East Greenwich has a minimum charge of \$10 for the first 25,000 gallons, 37½ cents per 1000 gallons for the next 25,000 gallons, then 30 cents per 1000 gallons.

In that section of Warwick not served by the authority, it is pointed out, the first bracket is 36 cents per 1000 gallons, with annual minimum charge of \$12. The first bracket in Wakefield and North Kingstown, served by other systems, is 40 cents per 1000 gallons, with annual minimum charge of \$25.

New Rate

The new rate sought by the authority is 75 cents per 1000 gallons of water, with an annual minimum charge of \$15 for 20,000 gallons or less (compares with present \$15 minimum for 50,000 gallons). A graduate rate would be applied to water used in excess of 300,000 gallons.

To a question whether it would assist the authority if towns were to forfeit payments now due in lieu of taxes, the authority said it would

"but it would be extremely unfair, as in no town except West Warwick do we supply water to the entire town. West Greenwich, for instance, is entitled to payment of more than \$1000 per year and has no service whatever. Likewise, Cranston, Coventry and Warwick would be penalized by such action, and we, therefore, do not recommend it."

The leaflet asserts that 18 to 20 per cent of customers would not be affected by the new rates, since they never use more than 20,000 gallons of water.

Cannot Borrow

The authority explains that it cannot borrow further now, because the increase is necessary to restore its credit.

Payments on its present debts cannot be extended further, it said, because present bonds mature serially until 1980, but in 1980 a final block of \$820,000 becomes due. Since the \$820,000 can't be paid in one year, it is obvious that amortization of the present bonds is considerably more than 30 years, it said.

To a question, "Who pays for extensions?" the authority said developers pay the entire cost in a planned development. On an accepted street, the applicant pays \$2 per foot above the first 50 feet and the authority pays the rest. Cost of a service connection is about \$45, it said.

Pointing out that it serves 868 hydrants at a varying annual rental in different fire districts, the authority adds that it seeks to charge a standard \$50 per hydrant.

Earnings over a 10-year period are listed as follows: 1940, \$34,755.83; 1941, \$33,614.50; 1942, \$31,037.74; 1943, \$35,576.69; 1944, \$4934.42; 1945, \$33,897.09; 1946, \$18,649.30; 1947, \$27,641.00; 1948, \$15,353.98; 1949, \$12,671.17; 1950, (four months ended April 30, 1950), \$2945.18.

Authority Asks

Rate Hike Aid

PROV. JOURNAL-3/13/53

Kent. Co. Unit Explains Need for 150% Boost; Meeting Slated Mar. 24

Demand for more water supplies to serve a 30 per cent increase in water customers since 1947, need for two new standpipes in East Greenwich and Arctic and all-around higher costs were cited by the Kent County Water Authority yesterday, in its bid for a 150 per cent increase in rates.

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The authority, which has been in hot water since it raised its rates and later had them rolled back and was placed under public utility control by the General Assembly, had been asked the questions at a meeting called by it to seek support for its rate boost, now pending before the state public utility administrator.

If no increase is granted, the authority probably will be taken over by bondholders through some judicial proceeding, it warned. That could mean long, expensive court action, during which no progress would be made in the development of a system which is servicing a rapidly growing area, it said.

The authority included an invitation with the circulars to another meeting with town officers for a general discussion of the situation Mar. 24 at 8 p.m. in its West Warwick office.

De Ciantis for Using Town's Surplus Fund

West Warwick Solicitor Says \$155,000
Would Offset Impending Tax Rate Hike

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick Democratic administration leader, today proposed that the town delay an inevitable tax increase at least another year by using up the town's accumulated operating surplus.

He said the problem of raising revenue to meet the million dollar record budget after next Tuesday's annual town meeting, is up to assessors. But, he said, as a taxpayer he feels the people ought to have another year's grace.

The accumulated surplus should amount to about \$155,000 this year, he said. Although the town meeting will be asked to approve expenditure of \$52,500 of it for capital improvements, that will leave about \$100,000 that can be used for operating expenses, he said.

If the present \$2.25 tax rate is kept for another year and the \$1,000,004 budget is approved, it would result in a deficit of \$191,000, or \$91,000 more than the accumulated surplus would offset.

Therefore, the administration has \$1000 in the budget for interest on tax notes—something new in a town that for years has not had to borrow outside in anticipation of taxes. It would pay for interest on the \$91,000 that would have to be borrowed, doubtless leaving a floating debt at the end of the fiscal year.

DeCiantis said the proposal to use the surplus to put off a tax increase a year was only his opinion, "an attempt to work out something in my own mind for the benefit of the taxpayers."

Under DeCiantis' plan, effects of a revaluation of property, proposed by the administration with a special \$10,000 appropriation included in the budget, would not be felt until tax bills came out in the fall of 1954.

The \$1,000,004 budget provides for meeting all requests of town employes for salary raises and, in the case of police and firemen, shorter work weeks. It would cause a \$116,304.55 deficit, even if the tax rate were raised to \$2.50 on present valuations this year.

Alternate Plans

An alternative budget of \$959,392.55, eliminating the \$20,592 cost of extra men to give police a 40-hour week and \$20,020 cost of adding firemen to shorten their week to 56 hours, would result in a \$150,692.55 deficit at the present tax rate and valuations. With \$75,000 more revenue from a rate raise to \$2.50, it would mean a deficit of \$75,692.55.

Another alternative budget, eliminating not only the cost of shorter police and fire hours, but salary raises for practically all town employes and a plan to pay married women teachers according to the regular schedule, at a cost of \$31,732.10, would total \$927,660.45. Under this budget, the deficit that would be covered mostly from surplus under DeCiantis' plan, would amount to \$118,960.45. If the rate were raised to \$2.50 this year, the deficit in this budget would be \$43,960.45.

A breakdown of proposed salary raises released by DeCiantis reveals that the town solicitor's pay would be raised from \$900 to \$1300. But DeCiantis said it is not for him, as he is asking to be relieved of the post.

"I'm tired, and it's a hard job," he said. "I think someone else ought to do it, and I believe anyone doing the job is entitled to more." He added the Kent County Water Authority rate case is pending and he, as counsel for the town without fee, will have to spend considerable time fighting the proposed 150 per cent rate increase.

Salary Schedule

He gave the salary breakdown as follows:

General government — town clerk, from \$3016 to \$3316, raise of \$300; tax assessor, from \$2600 to \$39000, raise of \$1300 to make full-time assessor; town solicitor, \$900 to \$1300, raise of \$400; director of public welfare, from \$1485 to \$2000, raise of \$515; tax collector, from \$2600 to \$2860, raise of \$260; town hall janitor, from \$2080 to \$2288, raise of \$208; building inspector, from \$2288 to \$2516.80, raise of \$228.80; readjustment, clerical hire, \$1000; total increases, \$4211.80.

Clerical, town hall—clerical hire, 10 per cent increase of \$1300 from \$13,900 to \$15,200; miscellaneous, purpose of defraying expenses of town council, travel expenses of town council, building inspector, tax assessors, etc., \$5000 (same as last year).

Canvassing Authority — One member, \$500 (same as last year); two members, \$400 each (same as last year); one clerk, 10 per cent raise of \$208, from \$2080 to \$2288.

Protection — Police department personnel, 12 months based on same salaries in 10-month fiscal year of last year, increase of \$6864 from \$77,453.40 to \$84,317.40; two additional men, supplies, additional personnel increases and increased patrol activities, increase of \$1356, from \$12,900 to \$14,256; increase in cost of equipment by \$500, based on 12-months fiscal year, from \$1500 to \$2000; ambulance increase of \$400 from \$800 to \$1200 to effect repairs.

Fire Department — Permanent personnel normal cost; additional sum of \$6250, representing two firemen to be added to regular force, also a part-time fire alarm supervisor to cost \$1040; callmen, \$5250; adjusted vacation pays, \$950; proposed salary increases for permanent personnel amounting to \$5519.80, increases ranging from 10 to 20 per cent to equate pay with police (salary increase exclusive of department head; total in-

crease, \$25,539.80, or from \$65,400 to \$90,939.80.

Sanitation—Sewer personnel increase of one additional casual laborer, \$1000; 10 per cent salary increase for all except department head; total increase of \$1906.80, from \$23,748 to \$25,654.80; Sewer supplies—This year, combined operational costs and disposal plant increase, in light of expansion of sewer system, raise costs \$3041, or from \$15,162 to \$18,203.

Garbage and Rubbish Removal —10 per cent raise for all employes except department head, \$2111.20, or increase from \$21,112 to \$23,223.20; supplies—needed repairs to two garbage trucks, \$588, causing increase from \$2888 to \$3476.

Town dump (new service)—Bulldozer operator at \$75 per week, \$3900; one truck driver at \$63.50 a week, \$3307.20; total, \$7207.20, plus supplies costing \$1500.

Highway Department—10 per cent increase in salary for all but department head, increase of \$4628, from \$51,896 to \$56,524; supplies—increase of \$4292.80, from \$17,707.20 to \$22,000, owing to increased number of streets, higher cost of oil, sand and plowing.

Public Welfare—Increase granted by state to employe, 30 per cent of which is borne by town; 10 per cent increase in salary for town-employed clerk; increase of \$156, from \$3959.80 to \$4115.80.

WEST WARWICK'S TAX INCOME WAS \$598,675

\$561,455 from Real Estate and Personal Property and \$37,040 in Sewer Assessment.—Uncollected Balances from 1936 Amount to \$193,703.

P.V. TIMES
3/12/53

West Warwick's tax income for the fiscal year ended Feb. 28, 1953, totaled \$598,675.60, including \$561,455.49 from real estate and personal property; \$37,040.05 in sewer assessment collections and \$180.06 in old fire district tax collections.

The uncollected balance of the real estate and personal property taxes extending from 1936 is \$193,703.24.

Biggest collections were for the past two years, including \$478,587.01 for 1952 and \$73,859.83 for 1951. The town received \$7.00 for poll taxes due in 1951. Poll taxes are no longer levied. Interest received on real estate and personal property taxes last year amounted to \$2810.18 and the income from tax penalties was \$148.71.

Collections for real estate and personal property taxes for other years were made as follows: 1950, \$2243.26; 1949, \$982.35; 1948, \$488.23; 1947, \$487.63; 1946, \$455.82; 1945, \$297.24; 1944, \$186.44; 1943, \$213.80; 1942, \$248.08; 1941, \$228.87; 1940, \$81.50; 1939, \$46.80; 1938, \$33.40; 1937, \$0.30; 1936, \$8.60. These amounts together with the collections for 1951 and 1952 total \$558,489.60.

The uncollected balances which total \$193,703.24 are: 1952, \$150,307.92; 1951, \$16,192.73; 1950, \$11,130.85; 1949, \$2334.37; 1948, \$1400.28; 1947, \$1100.31; 1946, \$1262.17; 1945, \$1129.22; 1944, \$952.25; 1943, \$1161.28; 1942, \$1474.27; 1941, \$1,

702.69; 1940, \$1131.58; 1939, \$876.07; 1938, \$653.25; 1937, \$686.60; 1936, \$207.40.

Included in the fire district tax collections which the town inherited when they took over district fire departments to form the municipal department are \$144.23 from the former Arctic Fire District and \$35.83 from the former Natick Fire District.

The sewer assessment collections totaled \$37,040.05 including \$8641.49 in prepayments; \$17,699.99 in payments; \$10,598.49 in interest assessments; and \$100.08 in delinquent taxes. The uncollected balance is \$355,831.34.

Will Ask State To Void Bonds DiCiantis Says Kent Water Board Hasn't Complied With Law

Pawtuxet Valley Office
18 Washington Street
West Warwick

Telephone
VA 1-8200
VA 1-7067

Michael DeCiantis, counsel without fee for West Warwick in the Kent County Water Authority case, said last night that he is filing with the public utility commission a petition that the administrator declare the water authority bonds void, as the commission has not complied with the statute.

He would not say in what way he claimed the law was not complied with, adding only that the petition would be filed in the near future.

This came about at the end of a meeting which authorized the authority to meet with a committee composed of one person from each of the five communities using water supplied by the authority to form suggestions to be presented to the public utility administrator on ways to erase a backlog of financial red ink.

Representatives from Cranston and Scituate will be invited to sit with the committee.

Glen Seavey, member of the East Greenwich Town Council, proposed this committee which was passed with only DeCiantis opposing at a meeting of officials of Kent County communities in water authority headquarters, West Warwick.

The East Greenwich Town Council, he said, will appeal to the administrator to go along with the recommendations of this committee.

DeCiantis, however, speaking in opposition to the motion, argued, "I don't think anyone can sit around and make rates. We've got to find out what the property is valued at and what the operating expenses are."

Only 18 Attend Hearing On Record Town Budget

PROV. JOURNAL 3/13/53

Only 18 persons, mainly Democratic administration officials, turned up at West Warwick Town Hall last night for a public hearing on the record \$1,000,004.55 budget to be presented at the next annual town meeting next Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the junior high school.

A school janitor, Alexander Duhaime, pleaded for salary raises for janitors, declaring that their salary boosts in the past two years have been far behind those of other town employes.

Jacob Clegg declared that the town should build a modern stadium, during a long speech giving his views on town government. He said he didn't think taxpayers would object to a rate raise from \$2.25 to \$2.50 because they have not had to pay a 25-cent fire district tax since establishment of the permanent fire department.

Republicans Absent

Not a single Republican leader appeared at the meeting, although the GOP had unsuccessfully requested that the hearing be held at the larger junior high school auditorium. Noting their absence, Democratic leaders jokingly remarked that their opposition must have gone to the junior high building.

At the outset of the meeting, which lasted from 8:12 p.m. to 9:05 p.m., Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, referred all questions to Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who, he said, had been deputized by the council to draw up the budget.

Purchase Questioned

Former Democratic Rep. Horace L. Petrarca questioned proposed purchase of a shovel-dozer for \$16,000 out of surplus funds and operation budget items of \$7207.20 for a new dozer operator and truck driver, \$4500 for a new dump truck from surplus, and \$1500 for supplies, all to institute a sanitary land fill system at the town dump. He said he would like to see an incinerator purchased, but added, "when we're so short, why not postpone an item like that?"

DeCiantis said that sportsmen

have complained of dump smoke at the adjoining athletic field and that the planning board had recommended the land fill plan to eliminate a health menace.

Petrarca also questioned \$10,000 proposed to pay for a revaluation of property. Fazzano explained that it is agreed the revaluation is needed to raise revenue and equalize taxes. He said hiring an expert firm to do it would cost between \$35,000 and \$40,000, but the \$10,000 should permit local assessors to do it with expert advice.

Town Must Borrow or Boost Tax

P.V. TIMES 3/18/53
West Warwick Faced
with Deficit of
\$185,097.35

With approval of the record breaking \$993,797.35 budget and \$32,000 authorized to be expended from accumulative surplus by West Warwick taxpayers last night at the annual financial town meeting the town administration must determine whether to borrow or raise the tax rate to meet the \$185,097.35 deficit. The deficit is the difference between the estimated income this

year and the total appropriations, voted last night.

With the present \$2.25 tax rate and valuations of properties the deficit amounts to \$185,097.35. To meet this red figure the town would have to use up the cumulative surplus which, decreased by \$32,000 last night, has a balance today of \$114,308.31. This procedure would compel the town to borrow \$70,789.04 to meet expenditures.

If the tax raise was raised to \$2.50 the deficit would be \$110,097.35, small enough to be absorbed by the cumulative surplus fund and leaving a balance of \$4217.96 in that account. The tax raise would also bar the town from borrowing to meet expenditures for the coming year.

To take care of future years the taxpayers appropriated \$10,000 as a budget appropriation to provide for a revaluation of property, but the administration has planned for the revaluation results to be put into effect the next fiscal year.

Regular resolutions approved by West Warwick taxpayers at the annual financial town meeting last night follow:

The town council and town treasurer were approved in their action of over-expending the appropriations for the fiscal period ending Feb. 28, 1953, as was reported in the treasurer's report and the over-expending shall not be deducted from the appropriations for the fiscal year 1953-54.

The town council was authorized to convey for highway purposes land not now used for highway purposes and to convey any real estate to the town purchased at tax sales.

The town council was authorized to continue its policy of granting tax exemption for a period not exceeding 10 years, to manufacturing property which may hereafter be located in the town.

The town council was authorized to reappropriate and redistribute from one appropriation to another the monies appropriated, but not to increase the total amount of the appropriations.

The town treasurer was authorized to borrow in anticipation of taxes according to law for payment of current liabilities and expenses.

The town treasurer was authorized and directed to pay the amounts required by law to redeem the junior high school serial bonds maturing this year; to redeem the junior high school addition serial bonds maturing this year; to redeem the serial funding bonds maturing this year; to redeem the sewer bonds and notes maturing this fiscal year.

All monies received by the town during the present fiscal year not specifically appropriated are to be appropriated for general purposes as determined by the town council. The monies received shall be credited to the miscellaneous appropriation.

The town council was authorized to expend the \$5000 appropriated for the Kent County Memorial Hospital as may be prescribed by the town council from time to time.

Bubblers and New Lighting for Schools

P.V. TIMES 3/18/53
Illumination for Night
Games and Bleachers
at Field Voted

West Warwick taxpayers at the financial town meeting last night authorized \$32,000 be spent from the accumulative surplus fund for the following capital expenditures:

\$15,000 for the standardization of lighting and installation of drinking bubblers in the elementary schools. This amount was requested by the West Warwick Council, PTA and by the town's school building survey committee.

\$10,000 for installation of lights for night games and for bleachers at the athletic field, Riverpoint. This amount was requested by the nine-member sports committee headed by Frank Lachapelle.

\$7000 for a garbage truck. This amount was requested by the administration to provide another truck to join the present fleet of two trucks.

The \$16,000 for a shovel-dozer and the \$4500 for a truck to be employed in the sanitary land fill garbage disposal plan was not presented for action by the tax-

payers because the provisions for pay for the operators and for equipment supplies were previously turned down by the taxpayers when they were acting on the regular budget.

Grand Jury Indicts Two

P.V. TIMES 3/24/53
John T. Weathered, Jr.
Walter S. Forys Be-
fore County Court

The Kent County grand jury yesterday indicted two West Warwick men, one on a charge of manslaughter, and the other on a second offense bookmaking charge.

John T. Weathered Jr., 24, of 31 Ethel Street, who was charged by West Warwick police with the death of his four-week-old son last Feb. 13, was arraigned immediately after the grand jury reported in Superior Court, East Greenwich. He pleaded innocent and was ordered committed to Providence County Jail by Judge Stephen A. Fanning in default of \$20,000 bail to await trial. He was represented by Aram A. Arabian, public defender.

Walter S. Forys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, was to be arraigned today on the bookmaking charge.

WANT POLICE CHIEF'S JOB

P.V. TIMES 3/25/53
PERMANENT

One of the measures expected to be introduced into the State General Assembly today, the deadline for introduction of acts without unanimous consent, was a bill to make the office of the chief of police of West Warwick permanent.

The office of the chief of police in West Warwick is the only one in the police and fire departments which is not permanent. The fire force including the chief and the police department with exception of the chief were made permanent on March 29, 1949.

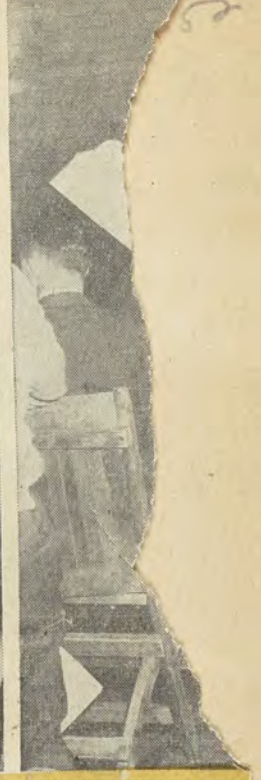
Pay Raises Win at West Warwick



BUSY SCENE during West Warwick financial town meeting at which taxpayers OK'd budget.



JAMES O. McMANUS makes plea for police.



HORACE PETRARCA fight

559 Voters Cut Administration Budget But Slightly to \$993,797

BULLETIN 3/18/53

The West Warwick annual town meeting last night approved salary raises for most employes and shorter work weeks for firemen and policemen, changing a budget of \$1,000,004.55 proposed by the town administration only slightly to \$993,797.

It appeared at first that salary raises were doomed when a majority of the 559 voters present agreed with former Rep. Horace L. Petrarca and approved amendments to cut out salary raises for town officers and clerks.

But, when the police budget came up with an extra \$20,592 to add six men needed to cut working hours from 56 to 40 hours a week, taxpayers overrode Petrarca's attempted amendment to cut and voted overwhelmingly to grant the police request. Strong pleas for police were made by James O. McManus, their special counsel, and Frank LaChapelle.

From then on, it was clear sailing for all salary raises, including a provision for raising firemen's pay to equal police and adding seven men to cut their work week from 84-94 hours to 56 hours.

Moves to Reconsider

Seeing he was defeated on attempts to cut the major police and fire budgets, Petrarca said it would be unfair not to give the town officers and clerks raises. Although he felt the town does not have the money, Petrarca later moved to reconsider the rejected raises and grant them. Taxpayers reconsidered and approved them all.

Only item cut out of the operating budget was \$8707.20 for personnel and supplies to institute a new sanitary land cover system at the town dump.

The recreation budget was increased from \$6000 to \$7000 on motion of Lachapelle, to provide funds for a baseball little league being organized in the town.

Tax Books Voted
One other change found \$1500 added, on motion of Norman E. Gillespie, to print tax books, discontinued several years ago.

Voters, in the three hour and seven-minute meeting, also appropriated \$32,000 from accumulated surplus funds. This included \$15,000 to improve elementary school lighting and drinking bubblers; \$10,000 for floodlights and an additional 1000 bleacher seats at the baseball field; and \$7000 for a new garbage truck.

Other administration-proposed appropriations from surplus for equipment to operate the dump cover plan were not even brought up, inasmuch as the operating funds for the plan already had been rejected. They were \$16,000 for a shove dozer and \$4500 for a dump truck.

In their tax resolution, voters instructed the tax assessors to assess a levy of not less than \$740,000 and not more than \$765,000.

Operating Deficit

The record budget means an operating deficit of \$185,097.35 with the present tax rate of \$2.25. If the tax rate were raised to \$2.50, it would bring in \$75,000 of that under present valuations.

It will be up to assessors, but Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis has suggested that by using surplus funds and borrowing in anticipation of taxes, an inevitable tax raise could be put off for a year.

The town had an accumulated surplus of \$146,308.31 going into the meeting, but \$32,000 appropriated from surplus last night will leave a \$114,308.31 balance. Using that for operating expenses would leave \$70,789.04 to be borrowed in anticipation of taxes—actually a floating debt of that amount.

If the assessors should decide to raise the rate to \$2.50, the administration should have enough revenue with the additional \$75,000 it borrowing unnecessary.

Revaluation Survey

included in the budget adopted was \$10,000 to finance a revaluation of property, expected to bring in another \$200,000 in revenue a year from now. Petrarca objected to it, but DeCiantis and Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, explained an expert firm would charge \$30,000 and the \$10,000 will permit assessors to do the job with advice of an expert.

On behalf of the West Warwick Veterans' Council, Peter Diachun successfully presented a proposal resolution designating the planning board and two qualified electors to be named by the Veterans' Council to investigate the advisability of erecting a combination town hall, police and fire station as a veterans' memorial.

The special committee would recommend a site for the building, prepare plans and suggest methods of financing the proposal, using such sums as are necessary.

W. Warwick Budget

The recommended West Warwick million dollars includes:	
Town Officers	28,783.40
Clerical, Town Hall	15,200.00
Supplies and Expense	4,000.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	2,500.00
District meetings	1,500.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Memorial Services	750.00
Miscellaneous	1,500.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,588.00
Supplies	50.00
PROTECTION	
Police—Personnel	104,909.40
Supplies	14,256.00
Equipment	2,000.00
Ambulance	1,200.00
Fire—Personnel	90,339.80
Supplies	23,660.00
Street Lighting	29,500.00
Civilian Defense	500.00
SANITATION	
Sewer Dept.—Personnel	25,654.80
Supplies	18,203.00
Garbage, Rubbish—Personnel	23,223.20
Supplies	3,476.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	
Maintenance—Personnel	56,524.00
Supplies	22,200.00
Construction and Improvements	10,000.00
Construction	2,500.00
EDUCATION	
Schools	320,611.00
Libraries	2,500.00
Teachers' Pensions	9,000.00
PUBLIC WELFARE	
Personnel	4,115.80
Other	14,540.00
DEBT SERVICE	
Bonds	1,000.00
Interest on bonds and notes	1,000.00
Interest on Tax Notes	1,000.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES	
Mosquito Control—Personnel	3,151.50
Other	135.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	2,500.00
Kent County Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER	
So. R. I. Farm Bureau	300.00
Playgrounds and Recreation	7,000.00
Social Security	5,000.00
Revaluation of Taxable Property	10,000.00
Tax Books	1,500.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$993,797.35
Estimated Revenue:	
State Aid	89,200.00
Sewer Assessment Fund	25,000.00
Licenses, fees, etc.	64,500.00
Total Other Revenue	178,700.00
Revenue from Property Tax at \$2.25 Rate	630,000.00
Total Estimated Revenue	957,400.00
Excess of appropriation over estimated revenue would result in deficit of \$185,097.35.	

A motion by McKanna providing that adoption of a motion to table a subsidiary question would not have the effect of tabling the principal question was passed.

Before presenting the administration's resolutions, DeCiantis gave an opening statement in which he explained that the administration, in recommending the huge budget, wanted taxpayers to know it would mean a tax raise and it was up to them. He said West Warwick is no longer a country town, but a thriving suburban community with need for best modern services of all kinds.

DeCiantis then read the budget in full, noting, on motion of Col. Patrick H. Quinn, that items to which no one objected would be considered passed and those objected to would be taken up later. Petrarca objected to every budget item containing salary raises or extra costs for shorter hours, the revaluation item and the dump cover appropriation.

Janitor Seeks Boost

Janitor, objected to the school appropriation, saying a proposed \$150

raise for janitors revealed by Vincent J. Lukowicz, school board chairman, was not fair because other town employes had gotten more in recent years. He later was unsuccessful in his amendment to add \$5000 for janitors' raises, when DeCiantis said the administration never meddled with the school committee. Lukowicz said the raise proposed by the school board would bring janitors' salaries up comparable to towns of the same size.

Petrarca said he was aware that it was unpopular to object to salary raises, but that he felt the meeting was the most important ever held in the town, inasmuch as the near-million-dollar budget presented a budget unbalanced by nearly \$200,000.

On motion of Harry F. McKanna Jr., Judge James W. Leighton was elected moderator of the meeting after reading of the call by Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb.

West Warwick Town Meeting

TAXPAYERS VOTE FOR NEW BLEACHERS, LIGHTS AT TOWN FIELD



increase over last year's budget. **FRANK LACHAPELLE** favored police raise.

"No administration should have the audacity to present a budget like this to taxpayers," said Petrarca. "I ask taxpayers to be careful because it will have a tremendous effect on their jobs, homes and financial stability of the town."

Petrarca declared that high taxes will drive industries out of the town and keep new home builders out. He warned that Warwick Mills has been on the fence whether to leave the town and said the tax raise probably would result in losing it.

He said he was as good a Democrat as DeCiantis, but added, "vote for yourself. Don't let the administration fool you that this is an administration measure. If you want to revalue property and then have the money to give raises, all right, but you don't have the money now. It would amount to another \$1.25 in the tax rate."

He asserted that new sewer taxes for some will be as much as \$100 on a \$5000 home and that the Kent County Water Authority is going to have higher rates.

Petrarca then was successful in amending the town officers' item to eliminate \$4211.80 in salary boosts, the town hall clerical item to eliminate \$130 0in salary raises, and the canvassing authority item to eliminate \$208 for a clerk's raise. Morris Chorney was unsuccessful in his motion to table the first of Petrarca's amendments and then dropped the issue.

But the police item came up next and Petrarca struck a stone wall in his attempt to cut out \$20,592 needed to give police a 40-hour week. McManus cited long police hours, danger of their work, the fact they have no clothing allowance, and that other communities are cutting police hours.

Jacob Clegg asked McManus if he were representing firemen, as Mortimer W. Newton, another lawyer, had represented police last year. McManus said he was not.

To McManus' assertion that West Warwick is no longer a hick town, Petrarca said it would be if a big tax boost goes through. "There'll be nobody coming to West Warwick, and you won't need a police department," he said.

Lachapelle was applauded when he declared that Petrarca was against all raises. He said Warwick mill now employs only 300, whereas it was formerly 4500, and added, "I think it's going out, raise or no raise." He said good police and fire departments would attract more residents.

McManus moved successfully that Petrarca's amendment be laid on the table, and the full police budget was approved.

Petrarca's spell over the taxpayers, as far as salary items were concerned, was broken from then on. He tried to amend the fire, highway, sewer and garbage collection items to eliminate salary raises averaging 10 per cent in the case of all but firemen. But he was defeated, with several motions to table his amendments being made successfully by Morris Chorney.

With Petrarca objecting that a sanitary land fill system still would not eliminate a smoke nuisance from burning papers and cardboard at the town dump, taxpayers rejected the appropriation on a voice vote.

OKAY \$1000 FOR LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL HERE

PK. TIMES 3/18/53

\$10,000 Appropriation Approved for Stands and Arcs at Riverpoint.—\$29,207.20 for Elimination of Smoke at Town Dump Rejected at Annual Town Session.

By AMBY SMITH

West Warwick will have better seating facilities and will have a set of lights for night football at the town's athletic field in Riverpoint this fall. The town will also have its own Little League.

Taxpayers voted \$10,000 for bleachers that will seat between 1000 and 1200 and a set of arcs that will set the stage for night grid contests at the field that is next to the town dump, better known as "Smog Haven" down there in the Riverpoint section of the town.

Prior to the voting for the stands and the lights, the taxpayers voted down and appropriation of \$7,207.20 for personnel and \$1500 for supplies, to institute a garbage disposal system at the town dump that would do away with the smoke and the smog that hangs over the town's athletic field during the football games in the fall and baseball games in the spring.

Had the \$8707.20 been approved for the personnel and supplies at the dump, a resolution later on in the session for \$16,000 for a shovel dozer and \$4500 for a dump truck, would have been presented to the taxpayers but since the first two items presented were rejected, there was no need of the shovel dozer and dump truck figures being presented.

Cost of \$29,207.20

All in all, the land-fill disposal system to do away with the smoke and smog at the town field would have cost the taxpayers a total of \$29,207.20 and they just could not see spending that amount to abolish the clouds of smoke that set the stage for an uncomfortable afternoon at the town's athletic field be it at a football game or a baseball game.

Henry Petrarca, head of the town's highway department, told your TIMES reporter after the meeting that his department would go all out in an effort to



FRANK LACHAPELLE at Town Meeting

control the smoke this year on days that games were scheduled at the town field.

Sports fans at the meeting were satisfied however with the way things went. The new bleachers and lights at the town field and the organization of a Little League more than made up for the setback in the effort to do away with the smoke.

With Henry Petrarca promising to keep the smoke down to a minimum, followers of the grid and diamond tilts at Riverpoint are happy today.

From \$6000 to \$7000

When the appropriation for \$6000 for the recreation program was presented, Frank Lachapelle presented a motion to boost the appropriation to \$7000 in order to earmark \$1000 for the organization of a Little League in the town.

The well known umpire ex-

plained to the 599 taxpayers present that every town and city in the vicinity of West Warwick had its Little League. The taxpayers voted unanimously for the extra \$1000.

Lachapelle also presented the resolution for \$10,000 for the bleachers and the lights and when he finished reading the resolution a few seemed to be opposed to the idea but after Frank mentioned the committee that worked with him and when he went on to explain how the additional bleachers and stands would boost the attendance at the Riverpoint field, the vote was passed in unanimous fashion.

Jacob Clegg spoke at length on athletic field situation and said that he would not erect bleachers and lights there. What he favored was a new athletic field and said that it would be worth looking into the possibility of obtaining the Knight property adjacent to the West Warwick high school for a new athletic field.

Did Fine Job

Lachapelle, a real booster for athletics in the town, did a fine job in presenting the amendment to the \$6000 for recreation to read \$7000 and also the resolution for \$10,000 appropriation for bleachers and lights.

The West Warwick Little League, with \$1000 to start with, for 1953, will further plans for the season at a meeting on next Monday night in the sports room at the TIMES.

53

W. Warwick OK's \$993,797 Budget

PROV. JOURNAL 3/18/33
599 Taxpayers Approve
Pay Increases for Most Town Employees

The West Warwick annual town meeting last night approved salary raises for most employees and shorter work weeks for firemen and policemen, changing a budget of \$1,000,004.55 proposed by the town administration only slightly to \$993,797.

It appeared at first that salary raises were doomed when a majority of the 599 voters present agreed with former Rep. Horace L. Petrarca and approved amendments to cut out salary raises for town officers and clerks.

But, when the police budget came up with an extra \$20,592 to add six men needed to cut working hours from 56 to 40 hours a week, taxpayers overrode Petrarca's attempted amendment to cut and voted overwhelmingly to grant the police request. Strong pleas for police were made by James O. McManus, their special counsel, and Frank LaChapelle.

From then on, it was clear sailing for all salary raises, including a provision for raising firemen's pay to equal police and adding seven men to cut their work week from 84-94 hours to 56 hours.

Moves to Reconsider

Seeing he was defeated on attempts to cut the major police and fire budgets, Petrarca said it would be unfair not to give the town officers and clerks raises. Although he felt the town does not have the money, Petrarca later moved to reconsider the rejected raises and grant them. Taxpayers reconsidered and approved them all.

Only item cut out of the operating budget was \$8707.20 for personnel and supplies to institute a new sanitary land cover system at the town dump.

The recreation budget was increased from \$6000 to 7000 on motion of LaChapelle, to provide funds for a baseball little league being organized in the town.

Tax Books Voted

One other change found \$1500 added, on motion of Norman E. Gillespie, to print tax books, discontinued several years ago.

Voters, in the three hour and seven-minute meeting, also appropriated \$32,000 from accumulated surplus funds. This included \$15,000 to improve elementary school lighting and drinking fountains; \$10,000 for floodlights and an additional 1000 bleacher seats at the town athletic field; and \$7000 for a new garbage truck.

Continued on Page 13, Col. 2

Slash in Work Week of Police and Firemen Voted by Taxpayers

Continued From Page One

field; and \$7000 for a new garbage truck.

Other administration-proposed appropriations from surplus for equipment to operate the dump cover plan were not even brought up, inasmuch as the operating funds for the plan already had been rejected. They were \$16,000 for a shove dozer and \$4500 for a dump truck.

In their tax resolution, voters instructed the tax assessors to assess a levy of not less than \$740,000 and not more than \$785,000.



At West Warwick's Town Meeting: Col. Patrick T. Quinn, 83, thought it a "crazy rule" that made a teacher who got married and who wished to return to teaching to come back at a lower salary rate. —State Staff Photo

W. Warwick OK's \$993,797 Budget, Pay Boosts for Town Employees

Operating Deficit

The record budget means an operating deficit of \$185,097.35 with the present valuations and tax rate of \$2.25. If the tax rate were raised to \$2.50, it would bring in \$75,000 of that under present valuations.

It will be up to assessors, but Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis has suggested that by using surplus funds and borrowing in anticipation of taxes, an inevitable tax raise could be put off for a year.

The town had an accumulated surplus of \$146,308.31 going into the meeting, but \$32,000 appropriated from surplus last night will leave a \$114,308.31 balance. Using that for operating expenses would leave \$79,789.04 to be borrowed in anticipation of taxes—actually a floating debt of that amount.

If the assessors should decide to raise the rate to \$2.50, the administration should have enough revenue with the additional \$20,000 it would bring in to make outside borrowing unnecessary.

Revaluation Survey

Included in the budget adopted was \$10,000 to finance a revaluation of property, expected to bring in another \$200,000 in revenue a year from now. Petrarca objected to it, but DeCiantis and Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, explained an expert firm would charge \$30,000 and the \$10,000 will permit assessors to do the job with advice of an expert.

On behalf of the West Warwick Veterans' Council, Peter Diachun successfully presented a special resolution designating the planning board and two qualified electors to be named by the Veterans' Council to investigate the advisability of erecting a combination town hall, police and fire station as a veterans' memorial.

The special committee would recommend a site for the building, prepare plans and suggest methods of financing the proposal, using such sums as are necessary.

Moderator Named

On motion of Harry F. McKanna Jr., Judge James W. Leighton was elected moderator of the meeting

after reading of the call by Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb.

A motion by McKanna providing that adoption of a motion to table a subsidiary question would not have the effect of tabling the principal question was passed.

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DeCiantis then read the budget in full, noting on motion of Col. Patrick H. Quinn, that items to which no one objected would be considered passed and those objected to would be taken up later.

Petrarca objected to every budget item containing salary raises or extra costs for shorter hours, the revaluation item and the dump cover appropriation.

Janitor Seeks Boost

Alexander Duhaime, a school janitor, objected to the school appropriation, saying a proposed \$150 raise for janitors revealed by Vincent J. Lukowicz, school board chairman, was not fair because other town employees had gotten more in recent years. He later was unsuccessful in his amendment to add \$5000 for janitors' raises, when DeCiantis said the administration never meddled with the school committee. Lukowicz said the raise proposed by the school board would bring janitors' salaries up comparable to towns of the same size.

Petrarca said he was sure that it was unpopular to object to salary raises, but that he felt the meeting was the most important ever held in the town, inasmuch as the near-million-dollar budget presented a budget unbalanced by nearly \$200,000.

"No administration should have the audacity to present a budget like this to taxpayers," said Petrarca. "I ask taxpayers to be careful because it will have a tremendous effect on their jobs, homes and financial stability of the town."

Petrarca declared that high taxes will drive industries out of the town and keep new home builders out.

He warned that Warwick Mills has been on the fence whether to leave the town and said the tax raise probably would result in losing it.

Dad Is Indicted In Son's Death

PROV. JOURNAL 3/24/33
West Warwick Resident Enters Innocent Plea To Manslaughter Count

Warwick Office | Telephone
3291 Post Rd., Apponaug | HT 1-1000
John T. Weathered Jr., 24, of 31 Ethel Street, West Warwick, charged by police of that town with the death of his four-week-old son, was indicted by the Kent County Grand Jury yesterday on a charge of manslaughter.

Arraigned immediately after the grand jury reported in Superior Court, East Greenwich, Weathered pleaded innocent and was ordered committed to Providence County Jail by Judge Stephen A. Fanning in default of \$20,000 bail to await trial. He was represented by Aram A. Arabian, public defender.

The defendant was arrested by West Warwick police and charged with manslaughter after an autopsy by medical examiners showed "evidence of a brain hemorrhage and evidence of external injuries to the left side of the head." The medical examiners ruled that it was "not a natural death."

Weathered, who lived in a trailer with his wife and infant son, became aggravated at the baby's crying and bounced the child on a bed, causing it to strike its head on the side of the trailer on Feb. 13, according to police.

When he picked the baby up, Weathered noticed blood and called police and a doctor and the baby was taken to Kent County Memorial Hospital where he died, according to police.

West Warwick's New Budget

The recommended West Warwick million dollar budget includes:

GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
Town Officers	\$ 28,783.40
Clerical, Town Hall	15,200.00
Supplies and Expense	4,000.00
Service Memorial	300.00
Telephones	3,300.00
Town Hall Maintenance	2,500.00
District meetings	1,500.00
Insurance	12,000.00
Town Officers' Bonds	750.00
Memorial Services	1,500.00
Miscellaneous	5,000.00
Board of Canvassers:	
Personnel	3,588.00
Supplies	50.00
PROTECTION	
Police—Personnel	104,909.40
Supplies	14,256.00
Equipment	2,000.00
Ambulance	1,200.00
Fire—Personnel	90,939.80
Supplies	23,660.00
Street Lighting	29,500.00
Civilian Defense	500.00
SANITATION	
Sewer Dept.—Personnel	25,654.80
Supplies	18,203.00
Garbage, Rubbish—Personnel	23,223.20
Supplies	3,476.00
HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT	
Maintenance—Personnel	56,524.00
Supplies	22,200.00
Construction and Improvements	10,000.00
Steward Construction	2,500.00
EDUCATION	
Schools	320,611.00
Libraries	2,500.00
Teachers' Pensions	9,000.00
PUBLIC WELFARE	
Personnel	4,115.80
Other	14,540.00
DEBT SERVICE	
Bond and Note Retirement	52,000.00
Interest on Bonds and Notes	48,226.25
Interest on Tax Notes	1,000.00
HEALTH ACTIVITIES	
Mosquito Control—Personnel	3,151.50
Other	135.00
P. V. Visiting Nurses	2,500.00
Kent County Hospital	5,000.00
OTHER	
So. R. I. Farm Bureau	300.00
Parkgrounds and Recreation	7,000.00
Social Security	5,000.00
Revaluation of Taxable Property	10,000.00
Tax Boosts	1,500.00
TOTAL APPROPRIATION	\$993,797.35
Estimated Revenue:	
State Aid	89,200.00
Sewer Assessment Fund	25,000.00
Licenses, fees, etc.	64,500.00
Total Other Revenue	75,000.00
Revenue from Property Tax at \$2.25 Rate	630,000.00
Total Estimated Revenue	\$808,700.00
Excess of appropriation over estimated revenue would result in deficit of \$185,097.35.	

\$993,797 BUDGET APPROVED HERE PROVIDES PAY BOOST FOR EMPLOYEES OF TOWN

P.V. TIMES 3/18/53
**Added Personnel in Police,
Fire Departments Favored**

The 559 West Warwick taxpayers attending the annual financial town meeting last night voted a record breaking \$993,797.35 budget which provides pay raises for municipal employees, including additional personnel for the police and fire departments and authorized payment of \$32,000 from the accumulative surplus for capital expenditures.

Knocked out from the proposed \$1,000,004.55 budget was \$7207.20 for operators of a shovel loader and truck for a new type garbage disposal system and \$1500 for the supplies of their equipment. Because these appropriations were turned down, the \$16,000 for a shovel loader and \$4500 for a truck listed in the call of the meeting as capital expenditures were not presented.

The budget was increased on two occasions. At request of Norman Gillespie, former Republican town councilman, a new appropriation of \$1500 was made to provide printing and distribution of a tax book at the end of the fiscal year. The sum of \$1000 was added to the playground and recreation appropriation upon motion of Francis J. Lachapelle to provide for a Little League baseball league.

The budget means the town is faced with a \$135,097.35 deficit and a story of how it is proposed to be paid is found in another column of this paper.

Pay Raises Turned Down

The meeting see-sawed when at first taxpayers turned down the budget and then after approving pay raises for the police, firemen, highway, sewer, garbage and rubbish, public welfare employees and teachers, they reopened the first three items and approved them to give pay raises to the town officers, clerical help at the town hall and the clerk of the board of canvassers.

Horace L. Petrarca who objected to all the pay raises was successful at the outset of the vote on the budget to lead in turning

down the pay raises for the town officers, town hall clerks and the clerk of the canvassing board. But after taxpayers upon recommendation of former Lt. Gov. James O. McManus, who represented the police force, provided the requested pay raise for the police and then followed through with pay raises for the other town employees, Petrarca joined in with the others and exclaimed to Town Solicitor DeCiantis, "Don't paint me as a villain, I am in favor now of giving the town officers a raise also."

Budget Presented

DeCiantis, in presenting the \$1,000,004.55 budget on behalf of the administration told the taxpayers that it meant an increase

(Continued on page 10, col. 3)

\$993,797 Budget Approved Here Provides Pay Boosts

(Continued from page 1)

in taxes or valuation of property, or both. West Warwick has operated economically in the past but the time has come to provide additional funds, he added. Reading his statement which, he said, he would place on file at the office of the town clerk, DeCiantis said there was no provision for new schools, fire and police station or town hall in the budget but they could be provided for in the future if the taxpayers want to pay for them. The town solicitor said, "We have enjoyed a low tax rate. From now on we must be careful. It is up to you, taxpayers. We will follow you and put your decisions in force."

Factories Will Leave

Horace L. Petrarca said he knew he was being made unpopular by objecting to the pay raises but the administration says it can't even balance the proposed budget on the legal \$2.50 tax rate. Petrarca said the new budget would have a tremendous bearing on the taxpayers' jobs, home and

the financial stability of the town. Petrarca said, "I am in the real estate business and the first thing a customer asks me is what is the tax rate." Petrarca predicted, "It will affect your job because the factories of the town will leave." In addition to the effect of \$1.25 more that taxpayers will have to pay under the new budget, Petrarca said taxpayers will have to pay for the sewer installations, \$100 for a house assessed at \$5000 and also more to the Kent County Water Authority for water.

Police Department

When the police department budget was offered to provide that department with eight additional men to institute a 40-hour week in favor of the present 56 hours the policemen work each week, McManus, joined by Lachapelle was successful in having Petrarca's motion to amend the budget, tabled. McManus moved the proposed budget item be approved and it carried.

McManus said the police were asking for an additional \$20,000 so they could follow in line with other police departments of the state and country and get down to a 40-hour work week. The 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. work day has gone by, why shouldn't it apply to the police and firemen? he questioned. The town of West Warwick has property valued at \$29,000,000 tangible and \$1,000,000 intangible and the police request for an additional \$20,000 represents only seven thousandths of one per cent of the valuation. McManus suggested the raise be met by the collections received from the parking meters and funds from payment for violations of town ordinances.

DeCiantis said the provisions for pay raise was up to taxpayers. "If the administration didn't want the police to get a raise and a shorter work week we would not have included the additional amount in the budget," he said.

Warning By Petrarca

Petrarca said, "If McManus has his way it will mean West Warwick will become a 'hick' town because if you raise the taxes it will be a 'hick' town with no manufacturing property and only a half of a police department."

In reference to Petrarca, Lachapelle said as long as we keep the police and firemen working over 40 hours, we will never get out of the horse and buggy days. "How about Warwick, where they pay the maximum tax rate. They still are and always will be building," Lachapelle added.

Morris Chorney was successful in motioning to table Petrarca's amendment to the fire department personnel budget. Chorney said "they don't work 40 hours a week, they work 84 and 94 hours a week."

Col. Patrick Quinn said the present regulation compelling teachers to lose their pay raises when getting married is a "crazy rule" and he called for the budget appropriation to be approved providing married teachers to work at the same pay scale as single teachers.

Henry Petrarca, highway commissioner, defended the increased appropriation for the garbage and rubbish removal division.

Horace L. Petrarca was successful on two other occasions to have the budget items for the shovel loader and truck operators eliminated from the budget.

Janitors' Pay Raise

Unsuccessful in his bid for more money for janitors than the budget provided was Alexander Duhaime, janitor at the Providence Street Grammar School, Natick. He said that the \$40.75 weekly take home pay was not a

living wage at today's levels. He attempted to add \$5000 to the budget for additional salary raises over the \$150 being provided each janitor this year. Vincent J. Lukowicz, school committee chairman, said the school board had given the janitors a raise for every year except one in the past six years and the \$150 annual raise this year was recommended after a study of pay of janitors in other communities.

John Kelley, vice principal at the high school, said he admired Duhaime for speaking out for a pay raise, but according to state law, only the school committee can recommend appropriating money for that department.

Revaluation of Property

In explaining the \$10,000 appropriation for a revaluation of property as requested by Horace L. Petrarca, DeCiantis said the cost to the town by expert help would be \$30,000. He said the tax assessors, one of whom works the full day, with help of the town hall clerks, could do the job "the right way." He said the budget item could also afford hiring personnel to go out and measure property and the costs of new chairs and a bookkeeping system.

Jacob S. Clegg also called for the administration to provide the taxpayers with a tax book. He said West Warwick was presently the only town in the state that does not publish a tax book.

Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, asked the taxpayers to reconsider their vote at the outset of the meeting when they turned down the pay raises for the town officers, town hall clerical help and clerk of the canvassing board. He said the town government will only be as good as the work done by the town officers. He pointed out there was no provision for a pay increase for the town councilmen, so that wasn't affecting his proposal.

At this point Horace L. Petrarca moved for reconsideration of those three budget items and offered a motion they be changed to provide the pay raises.

Veterans Council

Petrarca also seconded the resolution of the Veterans Council calling for appointment of two qualified taxpayers to work with the Planning Commission to plan for a World War II memorial including a combination town hall, police and fire station. This motion was presented by Peter Diachun of the Veterans Council.

McManus said the resolution offered by Town Treasurer Robert J. Harrop to allow the town council to transfer money from one account to the other practically means giving the town council a blank check. I am not going to object, however, because I have faith in them, he added.

In answer to Dr. Harry F. McKanna, PTA members said the \$15,000 to provide adequate lighting will provide an increase of candlepower which is now as low in some classrooms at 6 power to the 35 power recommended.

In answer to Richard Hughes Jr., DeCiantis said the school building survey committee would be continued to work with the Planning Commission when requested.

Albert Verville withdrew his motion to have \$50 appropriated

to provide an amplifying system at future town meetings for benefit of taxpayers at the rear of the junior high school auditorium when DeCiantis said the money could be taken from the miscellaneous account for this provision.

25-Cent Tax Rate Hike Slated in W. Warwick

West Warwick's tax rate will go up 25 cents from \$2.25 to \$2.50 per \$100 valuation this year, as a result of the record \$993,797 budget approved by taxpayers at last Tuesday's annual town meeting.

Hermenegilde J. Nadeau, chairman of the board of tax assessors, confirmed this yesterday and said he has started preparing the tax roll at the \$2.50 rate for tax bills that will go out this coming September.

Although Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis had suggested that a tax raise might be put off a year by using surplus, the tax resolution at the town meeting instructed assessors to raise between \$740,000 and \$765,000 in their levy.

Last year's levy was only \$629,691.60. DeCiantis, who was deputized by the town council to draw up the budget, estimated that only \$630,000 revenue would come in this year from property taxes at

the \$2.25 rate, in a pre-town meeting financial summary. Nadeau said, however, that the \$630,000 estimated revenue from taxes was low. He said that, because of new construction in the town and more automobiles, revenue from town taxation should be about \$665,000 at the \$2.25 rate.

Raising the rate to \$2.50 should bring in additional revenue of about \$75,000, he said. This, added to the \$665,000 would add up to the minimum \$740,000 levy ordered at the town meeting.

The town meeting also approved \$10,000 to effect a revaluation of property, but that will not be completed until next year. The revaluation is expected to bring in about \$200,000 more revenue next year. Unless this is eaten up by further expenditures that might be approved at next year's town meeting, it then should be possible to reduce the tax rate, Nadeau said.

DE CIANTIS HAS RESIGNED; WILL DEVOTE MORE TIME TO WATER AUTHORITY

Notifies West Warwick, Democratic Town Committee.—Named Last Year on Temporary Basis.—Town Council to Name

P.V. Times 3/24/53 Successor.

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor of West Warwick, today requested the Democratic Town Committee to relieve him of his duties as town solicitor so he can devote more of his time to the Kent County Water Authority rate dispute.

The move for the resignation by DeCiantis comes as no surprise because he announced a week before the financial town meeting he was going to resign from the office of town solicitor as soon as the town meeting was over.

DeCiantis, who has previously served as town solicitor, accepted the reappointment last year for a temporary period.

His letter requesting he be relieved of his duties as town solicitor, addressed to Alfred Richards, chairman of the town committee, follows:

"Dear Mr. Richards:—
"I would like to be relieved of my position as town solicitor for the town of West Warwick. I would appreciate very much if you would present the matter to the town committee for consideration.

"As you know, I accepted the position for a temporary period. Now that the work on the budget and the town meeting is at an end I would like to devote more of my time to Kent County Water Authority rate dispute, which I

believe is of primary importance to the people of the county, especially to this town, at this time.

"I wish to advise you that I will not send my resignation to the town council until the town committee has named my successor."

When asked if he would continue as legal advisor to the town council in the water rate issue without pay, DeCiantis said he would do so, even if it took all of his time.

Forys Indicted On Bet Charge Alleged Welsher Faces Bookmaking Count As Second Offender

Walter S. Forys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, accused by a fellow Pawtuxet Valley resident of welshing on a \$3100 bet, was indicted by the Kent County grand jury yesterday on a second offense bookmaking charge.

Forys was not in court to answer the indictment, but Edward F. J. Dwyer, first assistant attorney general, told Judge Stephen A. Fanning Forys would be present for arraignment tomorrow.

The indictment stemmed from a parlay bet made by an alleged customer of Forys who said that when the parlay—a wager that a certain combination of horses will win in a number of races—was won, Forys refused to pay the \$3100 winnings.

The man who said that Forys welshed on the \$3100 payment is Eston E. Phillips, 29, of 21 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick. He further charged that Forys had threatened to kill him.

Judge James W. Leighton on Dec. 5 placed Forys under \$2000 bond to keep the peace for 11 months, after Phillips testified that when he said he would go to the state police, Forys threatened to kill him.

Forys, on Apr. 26 last year, had been arrested by four state troopers without the knowledge of Police Chief Groleau. Forys was convicted of recording and registering a horse bet and was fined \$50. The next month he bought a \$50 federal tax stamp for gamblers.

Chief Groleau said he had gone to the place where Forys' bookie parlor was supposed to be and found no activity.

Phillips' lawyer, Robert R. Afflick, demanded that Chief Groleau arrest his client and Forys because testimony in the trial on the threat had brought out that Forys apparently ran a bookmaking establishment.

Afflick took his client and offered him for arrest to West Warwick police but the arrest was declined.

"As far as I'm concerned," Chief Groleau said, "there's no gambling in this town." He added, "If the state wants to spend thousands of dollars investigating fellows making \$2 bets, why don't they license bookies and that will be the end of this stuff."

Afflick declared that he was one of a group of citizens trying to stop organized gambling in West Warwick.

The lawyer then offered his client to the state police for arrest. On Dec. 9 the state police did arrest the client, Phillips, and also Forys, charging Phillips with placing a bet and Forys with taking it. On Jan. 2 Phillips admitted sufficient evidence to convict and was fined \$100 by Judge Leighton.

After a series of delays, Forys was bound over to the grand jury on a charge of second offense bookmaking, on which conviction calls for a minimum jail sentence of one year and maximum of five years, and the indictment was returned yesterday.

Still pending against Forys is a federal charge. On Dec. 15 he pleaded innocent in U.S. District Court of violating the federal gambling tax law and was released for trial under bail set by Judge Edward J. Leahy. Forys had failed to renew his gambling stamp at the beginning of the fiscal year, July, 1952.

DECIANTIS ASKS WATER BONDS BE DECLARED VOID Says State Law Not Met

Michael DeCiantis, counsel without fee for West Warwick in the Kent County Water Authority rate dispute, today filed a petition with the public utility administration calling for the administrator to declare the \$2,250,000 water authority bonds void for non-compliance with state laws in not first obtaining permission from the public utilities administrator.

The petition, which DeCiantis told the water authority last night he would serve, declares that the State Supreme Court has ruled that water authority which was created by the general assembly in 1946 was not exempt from the jurisdiction of the public utility administrator and therefore is subject to Chapter 122 of the General Laws of 1938.

Because the water authority is subject to the jurisdiction of the public utilities administrator the petition states the water authority must comply with Section 58 of Chapter 122, especially that part which provides as follows: "All stocks, bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness, payable at periods of more than 12 months after date thereof, issued by any public utility after the effective date of this section without the consent or permission of the division, as herein provided, shall be void and of no effect. No foreign public utility corporation shall be required to apply to the division for authority to issue stocks, bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness."

Text of Petition.
Regarding the statute, the petition states the following:

"That said authority has issued interest bearing bonds in the sum of \$2,250,000 and that said bonds are payable more than 12 months after the date of their issuance;

"That the said authority has not obtained permission, consent or approval of the issuance of said bonds from the Public Utility Administrator in accordance with said Section 58, and the bonds, therefore, are void and of no effect;

"That the said authority did, on Mar. 28, 1952, file a tariff with the Public Utility Administrator increasing the present rates approximately 150 per cent which is now pending for hearing;

"That the purpose of the tariff so filed is for the recovery of the cost of amortization and interest for said bonds illegally issued by said authority;

"That the amount paid for the said utility was imprudently invested and was based upon an inflated and improvident contract of sale."

The petition presented by DeCiantis for the West Warwick Town Council asks the administrator to hold a hearing to determine the legality of the issuance of the bonds.

Opposition by DeCiantis
Last night at a meeting of civic officials and the water authority DeCiantis opposed to go along with the establishment of a committee composed of one representative from each of the five communities using water, to make suggestions to be presented to the public utility administrator on ways to get the water authority out of the red. Representatives from Cranston and Scituate will be invited to sit with the committee.

Formation of the committee was proposed by Glen Seavey, a member of the East Greenwich Town Council. He said the East Greenwich Town Council will appeal to the administrator to go along with the recommendations of the committee.

DeCiantis argued that he didn't think that anyone could sit around and make rates. "We've got to find out first what the property is valued at and what the operating expenses are," DeCiantis said.

In the discussion on capital improvements needed, Rep. Gerard DiFiore of West Warwick suggested a minimum rate of \$25 be established per user for 50,000 gallons of water with an additional 30-cent charge for every extra thousand gallons. Those who pay more than \$100 would be charged an additional 10 per cent, DiFiore offered.

Sinking Fund Cited
E. M. McLaughlin, representing the investment firm of Payne, Jackman, Webber and Curtis, and Daniel H. Morrissey, attorney for the bondholders, offered the water authority to defer money from the sinking fund to be used for capital improvements. There is no money being channeled to the sinking fund at present because the water authority states it has no money available at the present rates for that purpose. Of the income the water authority is allowed to keep funds to pay operating expenses and meet the bond obligations. The additional income is presently divided between the water authority and the sinking fund. The offer of McLaughlin and Morrissey was for five years.

Albert Wood, office manager, was named to contact each town or city council in the five communities arranged, request them to name a representative and to call a meeting of the group and the water authority.

Petition Questions Legality of Water Unit Bonds

DeCiantis

Starts Action

Bulletin 3/25/53

Says Public Utilities Administrator Should Declare Bonds Void

Michael DeCiantis, town solicitor, in behalf of the Town of West Warwick, filed a petition this morning with the public utilities administrator requesting a hearing on the legality of bonds totalling \$2,250,000, issued by the Kent County Water Authority.

DeCiantis, citing a Supreme Court decision putting the authority under the jurisdiction of the public utilities administrator, contends that the authority is, therefore, subject to state laws which require all public utilities to get permission of the administrator before issuing stocks or bonds payable more than 12 months after the date of issuance.

He charges that the bonds totalling \$2,250,000 issued by the authority, being payable more than 12 months after the date of issuance, were issued illegally and should be declared void, since the authority did not obtain the administrator's permission for the action.

East Green Page—1st P 2

In another development last night the water authority approved the formation of a committee composed of one person from each of the five communities using water supplied by the authority to form suggestions to be presented to the public utility administrator on ways to erase a backlog of financial red ink.

Representatives from Cranston and Scituate will be invited to sit with the committee.

I. Glenn Seavey, member of the East Greenwich Town Council, proposed this committee which was passed with only DeCiantis opposing at a meeting of officials of Kent County communities in water authority headquarters, West Warwick.

The East Greenwich Town Council, he said, will appeal to the administrator to go along with the recommendations of this committee.

DeCiantis, however, speaking in opposition to the motion, argued, "I don't think anyone can sit around and make rates. We've got to find out first what the property is valued at and what the operating expenses are."

The bonds were bought for \$2,250,000, he said, but we don't know today what the value of the property is.

DeCiantis said he thought that when the bond holders bought the property they should have looked into it, and if they didn't, he said, the people should not suffer for it.

Albert V. Wood, executive secretary of the authority, is to phone the town council presidents and Mayor Goff of Warwick today to arrange for persons to be appointed to the committee.

Rep. Thaddeus Kraus (D-WW) said he has talked to 400 persons and that they accept the fact that rates must be raised. They complain, however, that there is a constant lowering of the waters to which the minimum user would be entitled.

Edwin H. Arnold, Coventry representative on the authority, pointed out the three schemes arranged by engineers do not have to be followed. Each year the authority needs an additional \$150,000, he said, and it doesn't make any difference how it is obtained.

The third scheme was adopted by the authority, he said, because it would be good for 10 years. Under this, 40,000 gallons of water would cost \$30, a jump from \$15 for 50,000 gallons in some areas. The rates in the five areas served are not now uniform.

A banking concession was mentioned by Arnold under which the amount supposed to be put aside each year in a debt reserve over and above the interest and maturity value of the bonds would be waived until the authority began operating in the black or until the end of five years.

Representative Gerard DiFiore (D-WW), called by Col. Patrick H. Quinn, the chairman of the authority, the only man to come forward with a concrete suggestion along the lines with which the authority could work, suggested adding \$10 to the minimum charge of water users.

He had talked with persons in Natick, DiFiore said, and the opinion he gathered was that they would go along with such a plan. He pointed out that the authority has 8626 users, and that a \$10 increase for each would raise over \$86,000.

But Arnold said that those who use more than the minimum could not be counted in, as the minimum charge is computed in with their bill.

Edward M. McLaughlin, representing an investment firm, said the pattern of level amortization, when principal and interest are the same each year, was not followed. The last payment of \$820,000 will be the greatest, so that money which would be used to pay off bonds normally could be used to make improvements now.

The time is rapidly coming, said Daniel Morrissey, a representative of bond houses, when the authority will not have enough money to pay interest on the bonds. He urged that a method be figured out where bond holders could be paid, as agreed.

Col. Quinn noted, however, that last July in talking with Morrissey,

there was mention of compromise on the part of the bond holders.

The authority has been anxiously awaiting a compromise, he said, and three weeks ago it learned from Stuart Tucker, authority counsel, that the bond holders would not allow the authority to float additional bonds in order to obtain an operating statement which showed the authority to be in the black.

Text of De Ciantis' Action Against Water Authority

EVENING BULLETIN 3/25/53

The text of the petition of Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick, filed today with Thomas A. Kennelly, public utilities administrator, follows in full:

"Now comes the town of West Warwick and respectfully represents:

"1. That, by a decision of the Supreme Court of the state of Rhode Island, the Kent County Water Authority created by Chapter 1740 of the January session, 1946, of the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island, approved Apr. 24, 1946, and organized July 8, 1946, being the governing body of the Kent County Water District, was not exempt from the jurisdiction of the public utility administrator and is therefore subject to Chapter 122 of the General Laws of 1938 and amendments thereto.

"2. That said Kent County Water Authority, having become subject to the jurisdiction of the public utility administrator, must comply with Section 58 of said Chapter 122 and more especially with a certain part of said section which provides as follows:

"All stocks, bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness, payable at periods of more than 12 months after date thereof, issued by any public utility after the effective date of this section without the consent or permission of the division, as herein provided, shall be void and of no effect. No foreign public utility corporation shall be required to apply to the division for authority to issue stocks, bonds, notes or other evidence of indebtedness."

"3. That said authority has issued interest bearing bonds in the sum of \$2,500,000 and that said bonds are payable more than 12 months after the date of their issuance.

"4. That the said authority has not obtained permission, consent or approval of the issuance of said bonds from the public utility administrator in accordance with said section 58 and the bonds therefore are void and of no effect.

"5. That the said authority did on Mar. 28, 1952, file a tariff with the public utility administrator increasing the present rate approximately 150 per cent which is now pending for hearing.

"6. That the purpose of the tariff so filed is for the recovery of the cost of amortization and interest for said bonds illegally issued by said authority.

"7. That the amount paid for the said utility was imprudently invested and was based upon an inflated and improvident contract of sale.

"Wherefore your petitioners pray that the administrator set this petition down for hearing and determine the legality of the issuance of said bonds and that said administrator give such notice thereof to such parties in interest as he may deem proper."

Water Authority

Hearing Asked

PROV. JOURNAL 3/26/53
W. Warwick's Solicitor

Questions Legality Of \$2,250,000 Issue

Pawtucket Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7087

Legality of \$2,250,000 in bonds issued by the Kent County water authority is questioned in a petition filed with Thomas A. Kennelly, state public utility administrator, yesterday by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick.

DeCiantis, who is serving as special counsel without fee for West Warwick in the fight against the authority's proposed 150 per cent rate increase, requested a hearing before the administrator on the bond question.

The petition states that the courts have decreed, as a result of a rate boost controversy since the authority purchased private water companies in 1950 (for \$2,062,500), that the authority is subject to control by the utility administrator. That means all bonds issued must be approved by the utility administrator, he said.

The petition apparently would have the effect of delaying a hearing, now in recess, on the authority's application for increased rates. It states that the rate increase application is for the "recovery of the cost of amortization and interest for said bonds, illegally issued by the authority."

Further, it declares that the large sum paid by the authority for the private water companies it took over in 1950 "was imprudently invested and was based upon an inflated and improvident contract of sale."

Attorney Denies

He Demanded

Client's Arrest

PROV. JOURNAL 3/27/53

Robert R. Afflick, West Warwick attorney, yesterday denied that he had demanded that his client, Eston W. Phillips, central figure as bettor in a West Warwick bookie case, be arrested, as reported in Tuesday's Journal-Bulletin.

"At no time did we ever demand the arrest of Phillips," Afflick said. "That's ridiculous."

Afflick said that last Dec. 6 he and Phillips went to Police Chief Groleau, offering to correct the date on a statement previously given to Groleau by Phillips regarding horse race bets he allegedly had placed with Walter Forsy, 39, of 1560 Main Street. Groleau said he wanted to wait for advice from Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, who was then in Florida.

The same day, Afflick said, he and Phillips gave a statement to state police about the case, in which Phillips alleged Forsy welshed on a bet. State police had not usually arrested bookie patrons, so he was surprised when they arrested both Forsy and Phillips, charging Forsy with accepting a bet and Phillips with placing one, Afflick said.

Phillips has appealed a \$100 fine, and Forsy was indicted on a second offense bookmaking charge by the Kent County Grand Jury last Monday.

W. Warwick Bill Gives Groleau 10-Year Term

PROV. JOURNAL 3/26/53

Police Chief Groleau of West Warwick would hold office for 10-year periods, instead of the present two-year system, under terms of a bill introduced in the House yesterday by Rep. Gerard DiFiore (D-West Warwick).

DiFiore said he introduced the bill for the West Warwick Democratic Town Committee. It was referred to the corporations committee.

The chief was the only member of the department who did not receive permanent status when the permanent police force was created in 1949 by the General Assembly.

Special Bill Died

Last year a special bill was introduced in the Senate to extend permanent status to him, but it died in committee in that Republican-controlled body.

The bill introduced yesterday provides that the "chief of the police department who has been appointed or shall be appointed by the town council shall hold his office for a period of 10 years from the date of his appointment or of the passage of this act, whichever shall occur later, at such compensation as said council shall fix."

Groleau, who is a member of the Democratic town committee, would normally come up for reappointment after the 1954 election. In the event of a Republican turnover in that election, he would probably be replaced by a Republican, under the present setup.

While the bill's chances of passing the Democratic House are good, it is likely to die in the Republican senate, unless it figures in a trade in return for House passage of Republican-sponsored legislation, it was reported.

"It's a Joke"

Ernest E. Lefebvre, publicity chairman of the West Warwick Republican Town Committee, said last night, "Other members of the department are permanent. It's a joke to make it 10 years and not permanent. Have they got an idea they might lose in the next few years and get back in time to save him?"

He said he doesn't believe the Democrats would approve any such appointment for a Republican.

"I never favored the permanent police bill as it was passed in 1949."

he said. "It allowed appointments of men by a political party without examinations, qualified or not. They were frozen in after being appointed in a political setup.

"I'm in favor of permanent status for police and firemen, but I favored certain examinations by standards set by the state police or someone else properly qualified. Not that I'm criticizing the present police department. As men, they do all they can. But, I still feel others who were in before (under the Republicans in 1946-48) had equal qualifications, and some probably better than some we have now."

Warwick Woman Fined \$10 for Failing To Give 5 Pigs Proper Food, Shelter

PROV. JOURNAL 3/26/53

Mrs. Ruth E. Lillibridge of 117 Cowesett Road, Warwick, charged by the Rhode Island Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals with failure to provide proper shelter and food for five pigs, was adjudged guilty after trial in East Greenwich District Court yesterday and was fined \$10 and costs by Judge James W. Leighton.

The defendant, whose pigs were kept on a farm on Division Road, East Greenwich, testified that two pigs that died had been sick and refused to eat. The three live animals, she said, were fed regularly.

However, the prosecution maintained that the animals didn't receive proper care. The defendant acknowledged that the dead pigs had been left there for about two months this winter after they died because the ground was frozen.

Veterinarian's Report

The complainant was James A. Reilly of the animal society, who obtained a veterinarian's report that the two dead hogs were emaciated and stunted in growth, and the live hogs were stunted and were improperly housed and without sufficient food and water. The trial opened last week and was heard in part and continued to yesterday.

Normand L. Beauregard, 28, of 72 Highland Street, West Warwick, who pleaded guilty when arraigned previously on a Warwick police charge of being lewd, wanton and lascivious, was given a year's probation upon recommendation of Probation Officer John McGuire.

Warwick Police Chief Sprague said he had no objection. McGuire said the defendant is going to continue psychiatric treatment. He was ordered to pay costs. The complaint involved a 16-year-old boy, according to police.

Catherine M. Hutcheson, 25, of Post Road, East Greenwich, pleaded guilty to an East Greenwich police charge that she drove without a license and was fined \$5 and costs. The case involved an accident, police said.

Ordered to Pay Costs

William Devon, 53, of 27 Cottage Street, Providence, picked up on a court order for failure to return for sentencing, was ordered to pay costs on a complaint that he obtained goods under false pretenses, to which he had pleaded guilty. Restitution has been made, the court was informed as Sprague made his recommendation.

Paul E. Waite of West Kingston was adjudged in contempt of court and sentenced to Kent County Jail until he pays \$1000 for a previous judgment in court for Finn Finance Corp.

Five Streets Got New Drains

PROV. JOURNAL 3/30/53

W. Warwick Road Chief

Says Projects'

Cost Totaled \$11,977

Pawtuxet Valley Office } Telephone
15 Washington Street } VA 1-8200

West Warwick } VA 1-7067
New drainage was installed on five West Warwick streets during the past fiscal year, it was noted in the report of the highway commissioner, Henry Petrarca, submitted at the financial town meeting.

Drainage was supplied to Davis, Tampa, Earl and Border Streets and Park Boulevard, using a total of 1950 feet of piping, the report shows.

Total cost of the five projects was \$11,977.11.

Among new works completed by the department were the Phenix Parish parking lot, the Highland Street parking lot, the Harris Avenue School yard, Burlingame Cemetery, Duke and Lee Streets and Highview Avenue.

Forty-three roadways in the town were oiled and honed, Petrarca's report added, and 1228 square yards of sidewalk were constructed at \$1.50 a yard or \$1841.75.

Total cost for garbage and rubbish removal, of which Petrarca is superintendent, for the year was \$20,954.48, the largest amount of this going to two drivers and six laborers in wages \$18,356.56.

Other items in this department were \$1114.41 for gas and oil; \$907.51 for repairs and parts; and \$576 for pest control.

Highway maintenance used the most money of the \$110,302.76 spent through Petrarca. Cost of maintenance was \$61,557.58, with salaries—those of the commissioner, five drivers, 10 laborers, a clerk and a foreman-operator—coming to \$42,371.21.

The cost of highway construction and improvements was comparatively light with a total of \$9737.65 spent, but in this item survey and supplies took the most cash, \$3865.42, and payrolls lagged to \$2345.85.

The last item was mosquito control where only two items, payrolls and supplies, were lumped together for a total of \$4234.19.

De Ciantis Says 35% Hike Sufficient for Water Firm

EVENING BULLETIN 4/1/53

Michael DeCiantis this morning challenged the need of a \$125,000 hike in income of the Kent County Water Authority necessitating a rate increase of 50 per cent.

He revealed he is working on a rate schedule that would increase the rate by from 30 to 35 per cent and will make the schedule public as soon as it is completed.

DeCiantis said he will submit this schedule to a mass meeting of the consumers of all the communities served by the authority. The decision of this meeting, he continued, will determine whether the fight on the rate schedule will be carried to the public utility administrator and whether a petition for a hearing already filed with the administrator on the validity of the \$2,500,000 bond issue of the authority will be pressed. This petition has been referred by the administrator to the attorney general for study, he said.

DeCiantis, who is serving as counsel for the town of West Warwick without fee in the bond validity and rate fight, was unable to attend a meeting last night of the authority and a joint committee comprised of representatives of seven communities served by the authority.

The statement issued this morning by DeCiantis follows in full:

"The Kent County Water Authority does not need \$125,000. All it needs is \$100,000. A 50 per cent increase in rate as it proposes is outrageous. The water authority can definitely be operated on a 30 to 35 per cent increase.

"I have been working on a schedule of rates which I shall propose to all of the consumers in my town and those in other communities served by the authority at a mass meeting which I shall call as soon as I have completed the schedule. If it is approved, I shall propose the same to the water authority.

"If the people feel that the case should be heard by the public utilities administrator, we will go on with the fight on the validity of the bond and the reasonableness of the rate. As far as I am concerned, I do not intend to sell the people down the river. The people are the ones who are going to make the decision.

"At the mass meeting I shall have the consumers at the meeting make the decision on both the rate and the question whether they desire to proceed on the validity of the bond. I shall make the rate schedule public before the meeting is called so that the people will be able to study it and ask questions at the mass meeting with respect thereto."

Forys Pleads Innocent

PROV. JOURNAL 3/29/53

Valley Man Denies

Bookie Count, Wins

Continuance to May 25

Pawtuxet Valley Office } Telephone
15 Washington Street } VA 1-8200
West Warwick } VA 1-7067

Walter S. Forys, 39, of 1560 Main Street, West Warwick, pleaded innocent yesterday at his arraignment in Kent County Superior Court on a charge of second offense bookmaking.

His attorney, Leo P. McGowan, asked for and received a delay in the trial in order to prepare special pleas and also to handle another Forys case pending in U.S. District Court where Forys has been charged with failure to buy the Federal gambling tax stamp.

Judge Stephan A. Fanning granted the delay and released Forys under \$2000 bail, an amount asked for by Arthur Costantino, special counsel from the attorney general's department.

The two-week continuance will mean that the case will not come up again until May 25, the next session of the Kent County Superior Court after the present session expires in early April.

Forys' indictment came as the result of the arrest of an alleged customer which automatically implicated Forys as a bookie. The customer, who said Forys refused to pay him \$3100 won on a horse bet, was fined \$100 and costs in district court.

Conviction for second offense bookmaking calls for a mandatory minimum of one year in jail and a possible maximum of five.

W. Warwick Man Pleads Innocent In Horse Bet Case

PROV. JOURNAL 3/25/53

Easton Wayne Phillips, 30, of 21

Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, who accused another West Warwick man with welsling on a horse bet he allegedly made with him, pleaded innocent in Kent County Superior Court yesterday to a state police charge of having placed the horse bet.

Phillips was adjudged guilty and was fined \$100 and costs when he admitted sufficient evidence in the case in Warwick District Court, Jan. 2. He immediately took an appeal and was released in \$1000 cash bail.

The alleged bookie in the case, Walter S. Forys, was indicted last Monday by the Kent County grand jury on a charge of second offense bookmaking after he was bound over by District Court. He has pleaded innocent and his case and Phillips case are now awaiting trial.

In another action on the Phillips case yesterday Judge Stephan A. Fanning allowed Phillips substitution of \$1000 real estate bail provided by a professional bondsman, of Providence in place of the \$1000 cash bail. His money was returned in the form of a check made out to his attorney, Robert Afflick.

Arthur Costantino, special counsel for the attorney general's office, represented the state in the arraignment of Phillips before the Superior Court yesterday.

Council Submits Hammar skjold's Name for Office

PROV. JOURNAL 4/153
U.N. Assembly Is Seen
Certain to Approve
Deputy Foreign Chief

United Nations, N.Y.—(AP)—Russia and the Western powers dramatically broke their long deadlock yesterday over the \$40,000-a-year, tax-free chief executive job in the U.N.

They pushed through the Security Council a surprise nomination of Dag Hammarskjold.

Sweden to succeed Norway's Trygve Lie as secretary general.

The often-used Soviet veto was withheld by Andrei Y. Vishinsky on his return here from post-Stalin talks at the Kremlin with the new Soviet Premier Georgi M. Malenkov.

The break came when the Big Five permanent members of the 11-nation Council—the U.S., Britain, France, Russia and Nationalist China—agreed on the Swedish economist and deputy foreign minister as a final compromise. This climaxed nearly three years of bitter wrangling over the post.

The necessary final approval of Hammarskjold in the 60-nation General Assembly is expected to follow soon without difficulty.

Had Never Come Up

Hammarskjold, blond bachelor son of Sweden's World War I Prime Minister Hjalmar Hammarskjold, was in his home country when word of his nomination in the secret council meeting was announced. His name never had come up before as a possible candidate during the recent fruitless maneuverings to fill the post.

The Council vote was 10-0, with Nationalist China abstaining, apparently because Sweden recognizes Red China. The Nationalist abstention amounts to approval, since a negative China vote would have vetoed the decision.

Lie, who offered his resignation last Nov. 10 because of heavy buffeting from both East and West—mostly from Russia—appeared relieved to hear a decision had been reached.

"I am a free man," he told reporters smilingly; but he was reportedly deeply hurt by attacks that came from all sides even yesterday against his policy of helping U.S. loyalty probes of American employees in the U.N.

"New Reason for Hope"

Later in a prepared statement Lie said:

"By agreeing upon the nomination of Mr. Dag Hammarskjold as secretary general, the Security Council has reaffirmed the fundamental role of the United Nations in the work for peace and understanding."

Continued on Page 2, Col. 5

Lie Successor

Continued From Page One

and has provided new reason for hope in the future of the organization.

"If the General Assembly approves the nomination, which the Assembly certainly will do, I shall be able to lay down the heavy burdens of my office with a clear conscience, knowing that a very able man with sound political, diplomatic and administrative experience will take over and carry on."

"I should like to extend my deepest personal congratulations to Mr. Dag Hammarskjold and not least my very best wishes."

The Russians have violently opposed Lie since he supported the U.N. action in Korea. They vetoed Western efforts in the Council in 1950 to renew his five-year term.

See Major Break

To bypass the Soviet veto, Lie's supporters got the General Assembly to approve an extension of his term in the fall of 1950 and the Russians bitterly have protested that this was illegal. Every Communist reference to Lie since then has termed him "the man who calls himself secretary general."

Diplomats hailed yesterday's agreement as a major break. Many of them have predicted that if the problem of a new secretary general could be solved, a break on other larger issues causing world tensions would follow.

The Soviet agreement with the West—the first of its kind in many months—came on the day Vishinsky, newly named permanent delegate here, made his first reappearance at U.N. headquarters.

Vishinsky was in a jovial mood as he turned up in the afternoon but would give no advance hint that the imposing new agreement was all but reached.

"Might Be All Right"

Reports of how the agreement came about said the Russians first let it be known last Friday that they would continue to veto Canada's Lester B. Pearson, Assembly president who is the French-British candidate, and Carlos P. Romulo of the Philippines, U.S. candidate, as often as these two came before the Council.

The French then were reliably reported to have said to the Russians—in effect at least: "How about a Swede?" And the Soviets replied: "A Swede might be all right."

Then started a series of manipulations so secret that no word of it leaked out anywhere. When the name of Hammarskjold came up the Russians said he was good enough for them. Yesterday's secret Big Five meeting finalized the agreement.

The five then hastily called the Council and it was not long afterward that the overwhelming approval of the Swedish diplomat was given.

Kent Body Seeks

\$125,000 Hike
PROV. JOURNAL 4/153
Water Authority Has
Backing of Joint
Representative Group

The Kent County Water Authority, with the backing of representatives from all towns and cities using its water, last night voted to ask the public utilities administrator to work with them and set a new rate that would give the authority a yearly additional revenue of \$125,000.

Last night's figure will mean a 50 per cent increase in rates, instead of the 150 per cent increase contained in a petition pending before the administrator.

The joint committee was formed last week to see if the group could come up with some suggestions that would put the authority in the black.

All seven communities invited to sit with the authority to iron out the thorny problem of finances were represented last night except Michael De Ciantis who was named last week as the second representative from West Warwick.

After hearing arguments of Russell C. Harrington of Ernst & Ernst of Providence, authority auditors, and J. D. Guillemette of Jenks and Ballou, consulting engineers, there was no argument from the special committee that the authority needed \$125,000 more annually to operate.

Both said they worked on different tangents in reaching approximately the same figures, which they said, were not checked against each other until last night.

Harrington said the auditors figured the cost on the basis of 1952, but averaged the estimated annual expenses from estimated costs during the next five years. The engineers also attacked the problem this way. Guillemette said, averaging estimated expenses for the next five years.

The authority now takes in about \$250,000 a year, Harrington said, and then analyzed expenses.

Operating Expense

Operating expenses total \$114,830, he said, and the authority must pay a fixed figure each year of \$29,400 to the communities based on last tax assessments. Maintenance requires \$17,225 a year, he added, and the debt service charges, principal and interest, will come to \$93,650 a year.

To this total of \$225,105 must be added \$19,150 a year to pay back to a debt service reserve fund of \$95,750 which after this year's payment of interest will be extinct.

Although the authority owes to the towns and accounts receivable \$134,500, Harrington continued, there is \$75,000 owed to the authority by consumers leaving a deficit of \$59,000. Spreading this over a five-year period the authority must add \$11,800 to what it will need.

New improvements will cost \$74,000 a year, he said, and to top it off \$15,000 should be added as a cushion. This, then, totals about \$375,000.

Subtracting what the authority now counts on—\$250,000—Harrington said \$125,000 extra is needed.

Guillemette's Figures

Guillemette said the engineers split the problem as follows and arrived at about the same conclusion:

1. The amount necessary to pay existing debts is \$179,193.

2. Necessary immediate improvements. Needed is \$25,000 to lay a 16-inch pipe from the Kent County reservoir to the Scituate pumping station. A new standpipe is needed in West Warwick, at \$60,000, and one in East Greenwich, where land would have to be purchased as the authority now leases the land, at \$85,000.

3. Extensions. About half is paid by the authority and half by the consumer for line extensions, which were estimated by Guillemette at \$40,000.

4. Several new pipes should be installed to provide better distribution and more pressure. This would cost \$200,000.

5. Cleaning mains. A \$50,000 job because not much cleaning has been done in the past few years.

This adds up to \$639,193, Guillemette continued, so he asked for an increase of \$127,839, which multiplied by five years, gives a total of \$639,195.

Cites Bankers' Concession

Stuart Tucker, legal counsel for the authority, called attention to the concession granted by bankers which made it possible for the authority to forgo the 150 per cent increase.

The concession stated that the authority would not have to put an amount aside each year in a debt reserve over and above the interest and maturity value of the bonds until the authority began operating in the black or at the end of five years.

Arthur Le Valley, superintendent of the water works, answered sev-

eral questions by Col. Patrick H. Quinn, chairman of the authority. Le Valley said he has worked for the companies owning the works for 31 years and in that time there never has been a rate increase.

There were 600 customers in the Pawtuxet Valley area when he started, he said, and there are now 2600. East Greenwich has added 1500 customers and Warwick has now over 3000 where it had been only 1300.

Le Valley said he didn't keep the West Warwick tank filled because there is a bulge in the tank and the seams sweat, "which is dangerous."

Banks Won't Lend

Rep. Girard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick), a member of the committee, asked about amortizing the improvements over a longer period of time than five years, but Tucker noted that the financial condition of the authority is such that banks will not lend money.

Harrington also said that the bond resolution prohibits borrowing on short term notes, in answer to a point raised on getting financing through the federal government.

Charles H. Anderson, representing West Greenwich and Coventry on the committee, disagreed with Guillemette who said he liked DiFiore's plan as put forth at a previous meeting that the minimum rate be raised from \$15 to \$25.

Anderson said he would be in favor of a rate which kept the \$15 minimum even if it meant lowering the maximum amount of water given at that fee, because, he said, to some persons it will probably mean a hardship.

On Price of Water

Sam Tourtellot of Scituate had something to say on the price of water — "I've had something to do with voters in the last 40 years. Give them something to drink and they'll be satisfied."

Clayton Marcelle of Warwick asked several questions which he had prepared as the result of queries he received from residents in his community. It was learned through these questions that the revenue of the water works was \$239,362 when the authority took over, and the only underlying interest in the water works are the bondholders. When the bonds are paid, the works will be owned by the towns.

It was mentioned by Edwin Arnold, Coventry member of the authority that the bondholders do not hold a lien on the property but hold revenue bonds only.

Other committee members present were G. Edward Silva of Cranston and J. William Corr Jr., of East Greenwich, Henry W. Ballou, head of the consultant firm, did not speak.

Kent County Water Authority Votes To Seek \$125,000 in Added Revenue

EVENING BULLETIN 4/1/53

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The concession stated that the authority would not have to put an amount aside each year in a debt reserve over and above the interest and maturity value of the bonds until the authority began operating in the black or at the end of five years.

Meanwhile, De Ciantis on behalf of West Warwick has filed a petition with the public utilities administrator requesting a hearing on the legality of bonds totaling \$2,250,000 issued by the authority. De Ciantis contends that the bond issue should have been approved by the administrator.

Arthur Le Valley, superintendent of the water works, answered several questions by Col. Patrick H. Quinn, chairman of the authority. Le Valley said he has worked for the companies owning the works for 31 years and in that time there never has been a rate increase.

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Tax on Unincorporated Firms Is Opposed by Small Business

PROV. JOURNAL 4/1/53
Grocers and Others Speak for Bill Which Would Repeal R.I. Levy, Branding Law as Inequitable

More than 60 Rhode Island "small businessmen" crowded a House committee room yesterday in support of passage of the DeStefano bill to abolish the state's tax on unincorporated businesses.

For more than an hour, 12 of them told the House finance committee the tax is "obnoxious," "unfair," "inequitable" and is "driving small businesses to the wall."

One witness—Michael DeCiantis, West Warwick attorney—promised to test its constitutionality in the Supreme Court if the General Assembly does not revise it in some manner.

The tax is \$2 on each \$1000 of gross receipts on retail businesses; like corner grocery, drug and bakery stores, and \$1 on gross receipts of wholesalers. It yields the state \$1,100,000 annually.

State Officials Oppose Bill

Fred M. Langton, state tax administrator, and Budget Officer Edward P. Conaty testified against repeal.

Gist of the argument against the tax was that retailers must pay on gross business even if they don't make a profit, but Langton answered that individuals don't usually stay in business if they don't make a profit. He said several states have similar taxes on unincorporated businesses, although they don't tax them uniformly.

Conaty told the hearing as it neared conclusion:

"Taking \$1,000,000 out of the state's income is taking a lot of money. Either the state must reduce its expenditures by eliminating services or ideas, or it must have an alternate means of income."

Several witnesses urged the committee to send the bill to the House floor for a vote, so that small retailers will "have a record of how our representatives feel about it," as Leo Clark, of the Rhode Island Pharmaceutical Association put it.

To Get Consideration

C. George DeStefano (R-Barrington), the bill's sponsor, also asked the committee of which he is a member to let the bill live or die on the House floor.

"We will certainly give this bill consideration," said Rep. Louis J.

Lussier (D-Pawtucket), finance committee chairman. "Whatever is decided will be decided by a majority of the committee. They will get the chance to make the decision."

DeCiantis argued that a tax on gross receipts is a tax on "interstate commodities which have already been taxed," and for that reason he believed it might be unconstitutional. He said that if some "privilege" were given to those taxed—like an exemption on the amount taxed—the constitutional question might be resolved.

The hearing was requested by Tax Reform Associates, which represents approximately a dozen retail associations in Rhode Island. At the hearing, but not taking part, were Alex Drinkwater and Vincent C. James, who run a public relations service and were active last fall in the Republican campaign.

Additional Witnesses

Other witnesses were Mrs. May Lauder, TRA secretary-treasurer and executive secretary of the Rhode Island Grocers Association; Henry Santos, Pawtucket, independent grocer; Horace Petrarca, West Warwick automobile trailer dealer; Henry V. Brady, of the Rhode Island Gasoline Vendors Association; Leo Katz, a director of the Restaurant Association.

Also, John Mello, president of the Independent Milk Dealers Association ("I know grocers I deliver to

who don't dress too classy and are not eating too heavy," he said); Nicholas DeRuosi, Providence retail meat marketman, who said the small butcher pays nearly as much on Canal Street for beef as the A & P sells it at retail; Albert Ver-vilk, Pawtucket Valley Retail Grocers Association, and Charles A. Johnson of Woonsocket.

Johnson, who isn't a retailer, said Congress more than a year ago repealed a three per cent tax on electrical energy sold to commercial and domestic consumers and that the savings in Rhode Island had not been passed on to consumers. He said the state could find \$1,000,000 by taxing the utilities what they had been taxed by the federal government for 10 years until repeal in November, 1951.

Kent County Water Authority

Set to Ask \$125,000 More

PROV. JOURNAL 4/5/53
Need for Sum Seen by Consulting Engineer, 7 Towns, Cities; De Ciantis Sees Only \$100,000 Required

Pawtuxet Valley Office
15 Washington Street
West Warwick

Telephone
VA 1-8200
VA 1-7067

Will the Kent County Water Authority soon hook into the Scituate Reservoir where more and better water awaits? Exactly what has to be done now to the system to give an adequate, wholesome supply? How much will it cost? How much is the consumer willing to pay?

These are questions being asked by some of the Authority's 8626 consumers—and by the Authority.

Yet the move to send any proposed rate to the Public Utilities Commission administrator, as advised last Tuesday by representatives from seven towns and cities, seeking \$125,000 more in revenue is vocally opposed by one person, Michael DeCiantis, who says he is working on a proposal by which the Authority can get along on only \$100,000 extra annually.

Crisis Outlined

Jenks & Ballou, consulting engineers for the Authority, have outlined the crisis in a brochure released yesterday by Col. Patrick

H. Quinn, authority chairman. The basis is a suggestion made at a meeting two weeks ago by Rep. Gerard Di Fiore (D-West Warwick)—that the minimum charge to consumers be raised from the varying prices charged in different areas now to \$25.

Summarizing estimated dollar requirements for the next five years at \$639,193, Jenks & Ballou have, by changing the minimum charge to \$25, modified what they call Schemes 1 and 2—under the former giving 50,000 gallons for a minimum and charging 50 cents a thousand gallons up to 300,000 gallons, and under the latter giving a minimum of 41,667 gallons and charging 60 cents a thousand up to 300,000.

Needing \$127,839 a year extra to cover the estimated five-year requirements, Scheme 1 can be disregarded because, as the engineer's figures point out, the total gained falls more than \$45,000 short annually.

\$5000 a Year Extra

But the modified Scheme 2, as presented by Jenks and Ballou, will see the authority over the next five years with almost \$5000 annually to spare.

The figures look like this: Income from 3368 water takers, those who, based on the 1949 water consumption, will not use over the minimum of 41,667 gallons, will amount to \$84,200. Selling 335,301,000 gallons to those using up to 300,000 gallons at 60 cents a thousand will bring in another \$200,580.

Larger consumers—those using up to and over 10 million gallons—will bring in an additional \$63,296. Heavier takers get bigger discounts, as: From 300,000 to three million gallons the rate is 50 cents a thousand; from three million to 10 million it is 20 cents; and over 10 million it is 10 cents.

This amounts to \$348,076. Under "other income," the engineers estimate \$68,125 will be taken in annually, for a total of \$416,201.

1949 Revenue

Actual revenue during 1949—the base year—was \$245,250, so that the authority can see an increase of \$170,881.

This, however, is not all gravy. With bonds out at 4½ per cent interest, the authority must pay into a retirement fund \$7690, and to knock out a deficit of \$30,700, which was realized at the end of June, 1952, and which this year looks to be about the same, that amounts must be taken off the estimated extra, leaving \$132,491.

This, of course, as pointed out in the summary, is possibly due to a moratorium granted by the bankers on payments into a sinking fund for five years, or until the authority gets out of the red.

Upon what does Jenks & Ballou base its estimation of \$639,193 during the next five years?

As of Feb. 28, the date upon which the figures were compiled, the authority owes for city and town taxes \$66,750.60 and \$37,753.69 into accounts payable. Also owed is \$74,689 to the debt service fund for a total of \$179,193.

\$25,000 Estimate

Although there has been some discrepancy as to how much is needed to finish the Scituate pumping station, the engineers place the figure at \$25,000. Colonel Quinn, commenting on this figure and one placing the cost at \$55,000, said yesterday that no one, with the prices of labor and materials moving up, can give a figure completely accurate, but he added that if the job was done this summer he believed the cost would run between \$35,000 and \$40,000.

Two standpipes also are listed under necessary immediate improvements, as is the pumping station, for which the total cost would be \$145,000. Together with the station cost this total \$170,000.

For piping extensions, the engineers estimated \$40,000 would cover the five years. This was splitting an annual estimate of between \$6000 and \$10,000 by Albert V. Wood, executive secretary of the authority.

Cleaning of mains would take an estimated \$50,000 for the five years, the report states.

New Mains—\$200,000

The largest single item is \$200,000 for new mains. A detailed breakdown of each new main is given with the cost.

Two thousand feet of 12-inch main is needed on Hill Street, Fiskeville, the engineers say, from Howard Street across the bridge to Main Street, serving as an auxiliary supply and reinforcing the 10-inch main in Main Street between Hill and Highland Streets. This would cost \$21,600.

On Woodside Avenue and Main Street, 3300 feet of 12-inch main is needed to provide a circuit from Fiskeville Reservoir to Riverpoint Royal Square. This would give an auxiliary supply to Riverpoint and Clyde in the event the pipe in Main Street between Phenix and Clyde were out, and would deliver water in quantity to the 10-inch main in Providence Street, feeding Westcott and Natick. Cost on this project is \$20,700.

An eight-inch pipe in Bedard Street, from Curson Street to the pond, would provide fire flow in the rear of business blocks in Arctic. Cost here is \$9600 for 1450 feet.

Curson Street Pipe

Two hundred feet of eight-inch pipe at \$3600 in Curson Street from the dead end on Curson to West Street would eliminate the dead end and provide the equivalent of a 12-inch pipe from the West Street standpipe to Arctic.

In Main Street, Fiskeville, from Hill Street bridge to Hope Road a 12-inch pipe is recommended which would give an equivalent of a 16-inch main from Fiskeville Reservoir to Fairview Avenue, Phenix. It also would provide the equivalent of a 16-inch main to Washington wells and Carr Pond booster station, except for 670 feet of 12-inch main in Washington Street, Anthony. Cost is \$30,700 for 3200 feet.

A 12-inch line in 670 feet of Washington Street, Anthony, would reinforce the existing single 12-inch pipe between two 12-inch pipes and one 16-inch pipe, the engineers continue, at a cost of \$9000.

Direct Supply Line

And the costliest item in the list—\$93,900—for 11,450 feet would provide a direct supply line from Phenix to Natick on Wakefield Street, which would also give water service to a potential residential area.

As needed, but which are not included as necessary immediately, are three other lines: a 10-inch pipe in Main Street, Arctic; an eight-inch pipe in Tiogue Street; and a 16-inch pipe from the Post Road to the proposed new standpipe in East Greenwich.

That's the sum of the report upon which the Authority, with the backing of representatives of the seven towns and cities served by the Authority, will seek a \$125,000 increase in rates. Based on a \$25 minimum, it is the opinion of most who are connected with the rate dispute that it is not too much to expect people to pay for a necessarymodity.

Clarence W. Lambert Is Named W. Warwick Acting Postmaster

PROV. JOURNAL 4/6/53
Post Office Career

Employee Replaces Melancon in Position

Pawtuxet Valley Office
15 Washington Street
West Warwick

Telephone
VA 1-8200
VA 1-7067

Clarence W. Lambert, 56, of 30 Woodside Avenue, West Warwick, said last night that he had received notification that he has been appointed acting postmaster of the West Warwick office.

He will be notified by the post office inspector of Providence when the change will be made, he said. He replaces Henry A. Melancon, who has been acting postmaster since Aug. 1, 1952.

Lambert entered the postal service Dec. 1, 1923, as clerk in the old Arctic post office. He was promoted to superintendent of the mails in January, 1942, and to the assistant postmastership Dec. 1, 1952.

Took 2 Examinations

He took two Civil Service examinations for the job, the first May 10, 1949, when he came out on top, and the second, June 20, 1950, when he again was first.

Fulda E. Geoffroy came out second in both examinations, and in the final test Melancon, whose permanent position with the post office department is dispatching clerk, was third.

It was learned that Melancon is expected to go back to his clerical duties when the change is made. He succeeded Arthur L. Taylor, who retired after being acting postmaster for the previous three and one-half years.

The acting postmaster appointment was said when Melancon was named to be a stop-gap move by the Democratic town committee to keep the post office functioning while it tried to work out a solution to the dilemma of endorsing a permanent postmaster, something the town has not had since the retirement of Thomas Durand in 1949.

Vets Backed Him

Veterans' organizations at various times have endorsed Lambert, the only Republican among several persons looking for the job at different times, because he was the only veteran among the top competitors in the examination.

The town committee has at various times endorsed Geoffroy, Melancon and Clarence H. Brousseau, Arctic druggist.

Congressman Fogarty, after the first examination when only two names were submitted for the opening, said there should be three, resulting in the second examination.

Lambert is a leader in veterans' groups, helping organize West Warwick American Legion Post



Clarence W. Lambert

No. 2, and serving four times as post adjutant and once as commander.

He was the state department adjutant from 1934 to 1939, a member of the Legion's national veterans preference committee from 1939 to 1948 and was committee chairman in 1942 and 1946.

World War I Veteran

Lambert served in World War I in Battery D, 27th Regiment, Field Artillery.

From 1924 to 1942 he was secretary of the local board of U.S. Civil Service Examiners.

He also is a member of Kent County Voiture, No. 1144, 40 and 8 Society; Gibson Council No. 181, K. of C.; West Warwick Lions Club; National Association of Postal Supervisors, and the Holy Name Society of St. James Church, Arctic.

During World War II he was secretary and communications officer of the West Warwick Civilian Defense Council and secretary of the World War II honor roll committee.

Party to Pick Fire, Police Candidates

PROV. JOURNAL 4/10/53
Pawtuxet Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

The West Warwick Democratic Town Committee will meet tonight at the town hall to endorse candidates for numerous police and fire department vacancies. Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, chairman, said last night.

Also to be considered is a proposal by Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis, a town committee member, that the party approve his intention to submit his resignation as solicitor to the town council.

DeCiantis has said he is tired with the weight of his duties as solicitor and his private law practice and that he expects to have to devote more time, as special counsel without fee for the town, to his fight to keep Kent County Water Authority rates down.

Eight patrolmen are to be added to the police force. Six of them are needed to effect a 40-hour police work week, the start of which is anxiously awaited by members of the force. The other two were sought by Chief Groleau, regardless of the shorter work week, one to do clerical work, the other traffic duty.

Also to be considered by the committee is a list of approved applicants to be submitted by Fire Chief Gareau for eight fire force vacancies. Nine men are to be added, but one is returning from the service. The other eight are needed to effect a 56-hour week for firemen, who now work 84-94 hours.

Richard said the committee is expected to make endorsements for recommendation to the town council at its meeting next Tuesday night.

De Ciantis Seen Keeping Post

PROV. JOURNAL 4/10/53
Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick will remain as solicitor despite his announced intention to submit his resignation to the town council, Deputy Sheriff Alfred Richard, Democratic town chairman, said after a Democratic town committee meeting last night.

Richard and John Gallucci, committee secretary, said that the committee had persuaded DeCiantis to stay in office as long as necessary.

"At this time we'd rather he stay on because of his experience," Richard said. "The town committee does not feel he should resign at this time."

The committee also endorsed candidates for vacancies in the police and fire departments, but declined to make its choices public. There are eight posts to be filled in each department.

Gallucci said some endorsements are yet to be made and they were left up to the town committee officers to make. The entire endorsed list will be submitted to the town council with a recommendation that those endorsed be appointed at Tuesday night's council meeting.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said later he was happy to hear DeCiantis had been persuaded to stay in office.

"While I appreciate the fact that the time will come when the town will have to accede to Mr. DeCiantis' wishes, I hope that time is still in the distant future," he said.

DeCiantis had sent a letter to the town committee, of which he is a member, saying he wanted to resign because of pressure of his private law practice and work involved as counsel without fee for the town in the Kent County Water Authority rate case.

Arctic Road Job Will Start Soon

PROV. JOURNAL 4/10/53
State Wants to Launch

Work in Summer, Asks Council to Pick Time

Pawtuxet Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

The West Warwick town council last night received notice from Philip S. Mancini, state public works director, that he is ready to put reconstruction of Main and Washington streets, Arctic Center, out for bids and hopes to do the job either in June, July or August.

Mancini said he wants to cooperate with the town and Arctic merchants to make the road job as little upsetting as possible, and would like to know when the project would cause the least interference with trade. He said it would take about a month.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said he will invite James Allison, West Warwick Chamber of Commerce president, and other chamber heads to Tuesday's council meeting to give their advice and opinions on which of the three months they would prefer for the road job.

The area to be reconstructed will be from Arctic railroad crossing, Providence Street, along Main Street in Arctic and along Washington Street to Andrews Avenue near the Coventry town line. The job will involve removal of the asphalt surface from the railroad crossing to Pond Street and its replacement. From Pond Street to Andrews Avenue, along Washington Street, it is Mancini's intention to place new material on top of existing pavement.

No work will be done on the concrete base course between Pond and Andrews Avenue unless absolutely necessary, Mancini said.

He said no work will be done, nor will equipment be allowed to remain, on Providence Street, Main Street, or Washington Street between 4:30 p.m. on Fridays and Monday mornings. This would clear the roads for the busiest shopping days.

The council, at its special meeting, also authorized Harry F. McKanna Jr., legal counsel to the council sitting as a sewer commission, to have engineers advertise for bids on a pumping station installation at Brookfield Hills plat and installation of a heat interchanger unit and work on the chlorinating system at the sewage disposal plant. The disposal plant work is needed to increase its capacity under the \$1,200,000 sewer extension program now under way.

The council also drew names of 55 grand jurors and 163 petit jurors for service in Superior Court.

DiCiantis Offers

Water Rate Plan

PROV. JOURNAL 4/10/53

A schedule that would give the Kent County Water Authority between \$90,000 and \$100,000 additional revenue was proposed yesterday by Michael DeCiantis, who is working without fee for West Warwick in the water rate dispute case. DeCiantis said a majority of the holders of the authority's bonds are in favor of his schedule.

DeCiantis' rates call for a maximum charge of \$20 for 50,000 gallons of water instead of the \$25 which was agreed on by the authority, a special committee appointed from seven communities served by the authority, when both the authority auditors and engineers said it needed an additional \$125,000.

"I have contacted some bondholders and conferred with some representatives of the investment houses who have sold these bonds and their attorneys," DeCiantis said. "I have submitted these rates to them. They have been approved and the representatives of most of the bondholders are ready to co-operate with us in every way to recommend the adoption of these rates."

DeCiantis also guaranteed the money necessary for construction of a pumping station at Scituate Reservoir and a new standpipe at East Greenwich. About \$100,000 can be obtained through a loan. At recent meetings of the authority it was stated they could not obtain a loan because of the authority's financial condition.

W. Warwick Police, Fire Appointments Held Up

Pawtuxet Valley Office Telephone
15 Washington Street VA 1-8200
West Warwick VA 1-7067

The start of shorter work weeks for West Warwick police and firemen was delayed last night when the town council deferred action until a special meeting next Monday at 8 p.m. on naming eight new patrolmen and the same number of firemen needed to make the change.

Councilmen were scheduled to make the appointments last night, inasmuch as the Democratic Town Committee had endorsed candidates for the jobs last week.

It was reported that the delay developed because councilmen were not in full agreement with the town committee on who should get the jobs.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, who announced that appointments will be made Monday, denied this. He said, "The council has certain names before it. Because of the importance of the positions, the council wants to discuss the names very thoroughly."

New Work Week

Taxpayers at last month's annual town meeting appropriated enough money to add the extra men to permit cutting the police work week from 54 to 40 hours and the firemen's week the present 84-94 hours to 56 hours.

Representatives of West Warwick Chamber of Commerce appeared to inform the council they would prefer that the state rebuild Main and Washington Streets, Arctic, during July rather than in June or August. Philip S. Mancini, state public works director, had notified the council he would abide by their wish.

In an unexpected development, James Allison, chamber president, revealed the businessmen had voted to ask the council to discontinue the one-way traffic plan tried experimentally in Arctic at request of the planning board for the past two months. Businessmen urged that Bedard Street be cut through to Gardner Avenue to give a by-pass street, as recommended by Dwight T. Myers, traffic consultant.

To Eliminate Plan

Police Chief Groleau said he would discontinue the one-way plan beginning this Friday, as long as the merchants don't approve it. Fazzano said the town cannot afford the Bedard Street project at this time, however.

Allison said store customers, particularly from South County, have complained about the one-way plan, saying they were shuttled down back streets.

The council voted to send a resolution to the General Assembly asking passage of a bill to make Chief Groleau a permanent officer. A bill which would give him 10 years tenure is in the House but it is expected to be amended to give the chief permanent tenure. All other department members already have it.

Benjamin Elman, chairman of the merchants division of the Chamber of Commerce, asked the council to seek installation of traffic lights in Arctic shopping center at the same time as the roads are being rebuilt this summer. Fazzano said the request already had been made.

Drainage Problem

Councilman Antonio Paul urged that the state be asked to correct a drainage condition on Washington Street at St. John's Street during the reconstruction job.

After amending his application for a zoning exception to eliminate a residentially zoned area in the rear, Vincent H. Carlum received a zoning exception to permit operation of a gas station, auto repair and salesroom on property owned by Mr. and Mrs. William H. Passano and Mr. and Mrs. Louis LaPlante, Cowesett Avenue.

Numerous neighbors strenuously objected that it would devalue their property and Norman Theroux, sales agent for Nieforth Bros., developers of nearby High View Plat, said it would effect the development adversely. However, Fazzano pointed out that there is now a gas station on the site and that it was there before the zoning law, making it questionable whether Carlum needed to apply for the exception except for the rear residential plat, which Carlum withdrew.

Edward Jordan, an objector, questioned why Building Inspector Willie J. Regnaiere had asked that residents withdraw their protest petitions. Regnaiere answered that the residentially zoned lot is swampy and he thought the area would be improved by Carlum, who intends to fill it in.

Carlum said he intends to move from Cranston and build a home in the rear of his proposed establishment.

DECIANTIS GETS STRONG BACKING IN WATER RATE SLATE FOR KENT COUNTY

P.V. TIMES 4/13/53
Says Some of Bondholders, and Representatives and Attorneys of Investment Houses Favor His Plan — Sees Added Income of \$90,000 to \$100,000 for Authority.

In a surprise announcement, Michael DeCiantis, counsel for West Warwick in the Kent County Water Authority rate dispute, revealed this morning that he has received approval of his own rate schedule from some of the bondholders and representatives and attorneys of the investment houses which would provide the water authority an added annual income of between \$90,000 and \$100,000.

DeCiantis said that they have received his rate plan which would raise rates approximately 33 1-3 per cent by increasing the minimum charge from \$15 to \$20 and the charge to larger consumers proportionately and "they are ready to cooperate with us in every way to recommend the adoption of these rates."

Whether or not this cooperation between DeCiantis and bondholders will bring an end to the two-year rate hike dispute, remains to be seen, however. The water authorities attorneys, auditors and engineers are presently drafting a rate schedule of their own to raise an additional \$125,000 per year to put their fiscal books in "the black" and to make capital improvements. DeCiantis has previously stated that he would call a public mass meeting to see whether or not approval is given by the public to his rate plan.

Consumer Schedule
DeCiantis' schedule for consumers follows: 50,000 gallons of water, \$20 minimum; 50,000 to 400,000 gallons, 40 cents per thousand additional gallons over 50,000; 400,000 to 3,100,000 gallons, 35 cents per each thousand extra gallons; 3,100,000 to 10,000,000, 30 cents per each thousand extra gallons; 10 million gallons and over, 10 cents per each thousand extra gallons over 50,000.

DeCiantis told reporters at his home this morning, where he is confined with a cold, "After looking over the records and exhibits which have been introduced as evidence before the Public Utilities Administration and those that were produced in the Supreme Court hearing, it is my opinion that the water authority can successfully operate a system on an additional revenue of \$100,000."

Guarantees Loan
"The authority claims that it needs \$100,000 to construct and to connect the pumping station with the Scituate Reservoir to supply therefrom the area within the north branch of the Pawtuxet River and also to construct a new standpipe in East Greenwich. With regard to the money necessary to construct these two projects I guarantee the sum necessary will be loaned to the authority. Heretofore and at the very last meeting, it was stated the water authority would not be able to obtain a loan because of their present financial condition."

Explaining how he would raise \$100,000 additional DeCiantis said "With regard to the additional \$100,000 for operating expenses the authority will have an increased income on the minimum charge from \$15 to \$20 in West

Warwick and from \$10 to \$20 in East Greenwich. There are approximately 8626 water users in the areas served by the Kent County Water Authority. It is my opinion that about 6580 are customers in the Pawtuxet Valley who pay a minimum of \$15 for 50,000 gallons at the present time. This amount, if increased to \$20 for 50,000 gallons of water, will be an increase of 33 1-2 per cent and will bring in an added revenue of approximately \$32,900."

Continuing, DeCiantis said: "There are about 2046 customers who pay a minimum of \$10 for 20,000 gallons of water. Increasing that rate to \$20 while it would seem it would be a 100 per cent increase, is not, because the customer would get 30,000 more gallons of water, would provide an additional revenue of \$20,460."

Referring to the proposed \$25 minimum charge, DeCiantis said the \$25 minimum charge is discriminatory and illegal because there would be many users who would not use anywhere near the minimum, and whose rate consequently would be exorbitant and invalid."

Hydrant Charges

Adding to the total \$53,360 which would be raised by hiking the minimum charge, DeCiantis said "there are approximately 883 hydrants in the system, including 231 at \$50 annual charge; 364 at \$30; and 273 at \$25 per year. This rate, in my opinion, should be made equal. So by increasing the charge of 364 hydrants from \$30 to \$50, an additional \$7280 would be received, and increasing the charge of 273 hydrants from \$25 to \$50, there would be an added \$6825 income for a total increase of \$14,005." That amount plus the \$53,360 for the raised minimum charge would provide \$67,365, which DeCiantis said is a guaranteed increased income revenue.

DeCiantis said the sum of \$32,635 to be raised to bring in the \$100,000 would be obtained in charges to users of excess water.

\$90,000-\$100,000 Increase
DeCiantis said: "It must be understood I have not had the facilities of working out the exact dollar these rates will bring in, but I am most positive it will bring an increase income of between \$90,000 and \$100,000. I do believe \$100,000 is necessary. I have contacted some of the bondholders. I have also conferred with some representatives and attorneys of the investment houses who have sold some of these bonds and I have submitted these rates to them. They have been approved by them. The representatives of most of the bondholders are ready to cooperate with us in every way to recommend the adoption of these rates. They have also agreed to give the Kent County Water Authority as has already been publicly stated by the water authority a five-year moratorium for their sinking fund."

DeCiantis said that he did not compile a promotional rate for the larger consumers because to be legal, they have to be backed up by evidence that that type of rate is the proper one to be used and he does not have that evidence.

DeCiantis said that the 40-cent charge for a thousand gallons up to \$400,000 gallons is also a 33 1-3 per cent increase.

New Water Schedule Proposed by DeCiantis

Would Provide \$90,000 to \$100,000 In Added Revenue.—Says Majority Of Bondholders Approve Program

PROV. JOURNAL 4/13/53

A schedule that would give the Kent County Water Authority between \$90,000 and \$100,000 additional revenue was proposed today by Michael DeCiantis, who is working without fee for West Warwick in the water rate dispute case. DeCiantis said a majority of the holders of the authority's bonds are in favor of his schedule.

DeCiantis' rates call for a maximum charge to \$20 for 50,000 gallons of water instead of the \$25 which was agreed on by the authority, a special committee appointed from seven communities served by the authority, when both the authority auditors and engineers said it needed an additional \$125,000.

"I have contacted some bondholders and conferred with some representatives of the investment houses who have sold these bonds and their attorneys," DeCiantis said. "I have submitted these rates to them. They have been approved and the representatives of most of the bondholders are ready to co-operate with us in every way to recommend the adoption of these rates."

DeCiantis did not say, but it is believed the \$25,000 lopped off the authority's figures came from a \$15,000 "cushion" fund and \$11,800 to pay off authority debts.

DeCiantis also guaranteed the

money necessary for construction of a pumping station at Scituate Reservoir and a new standpipe at East Greenwich. About \$100,000 can be obtained through a loan. At recent meetings of the authority it was stated they could not obtain a loan because of the authority's financial condition.

The schedule calls for a general increase in rates of about 33½ per cent he said. From 50,000 gallons to 40,000, the cost would be 40 cents a thousand; from 400,000 to 3,100,000, the cost would be 35 cents a thousand; from 3,100,000 to 10,000,000, the cost would be 30 cents and over 10,000,000, the rate would be ten cents a thousand.

He arrived at his total of \$100,000, which he said the authority needed extra for operating expenses, this way:

Consumers in the Valley now paying \$15 for 50,000 gallons would be increased to \$20, the additional revenue being brought in would be \$32,900.

There are about 2046 customers who pay \$10 for a minimum of 25,000 gallons. Although it appears to be a 100 per cent increase, he said, they will get 50,000 gallons instead of 25,000. This would make an additional \$20,460.

The total of \$53,360 is guaranteed income with regard to minimum charge.

There are 868 hydrants in the system with 231 bringing in \$50; 364 at \$30 and 273 at \$25. "The rate in my opinion," DeCiantis said, "should be made equal at \$50 throughout the system."

This would add \$14,005, making a total of \$67,356, with \$32,635 of the \$100,000 to be raised from charges on excess water.

A mass meeting, which he had said would be called for this week, will have to be postponed, DeCiantis said, because of other meetings in the area.

DeCiantis said he arrived at the schedule after checking records and exhibits introduced as evidence before the public utility administrator and those produced at the supreme court hearings when a 150 per cent rate increase by the authority was declared illegal.

DeCiantis called a minimum charge of \$25 discriminatory and illegal.

West Warwick Police, Fire Depts. Get 16 New Men; Promotions in Offing

PROV. JOURNAL 4/21/53

Two promotions on the police force and one in the fire department are in the offing, it was revealed last night as the West Warwick Town Council named eight probationary patrolmen and eight probationary firemen.

Named to the police force are: James Ruzzo, Baker Street; Eugene Da Silva, 24 Bridge Street; Daniel Petrarca, 272 Providence Street;

Charles Chagnon, 29 Manchester Street; Lionel Duminie, 26 Colonial Way; Albert R. Brzoza, 8 Manchester Street; Joseph Razza, McTeers Court, and James F. O'Connell, 12 Maple Avenue.

New firemen are Theodore N. Strzepek, 44 Manchester Street; Henry L. Smith, 632 Main Street; Albert J. Carrington, 20 Bradford Street; Urban G. James, 11 School Street; Maurice J. Boisclair, 25 Mill Street; Joseph J. Rocheford, 47 Robert Street; Fulgence D. Charland, 61 Prospect Hill, and John Martone, 786 Providence Street.

The new appointees will be sworn in at a special council meeting tomorrow at 8 p.m. Police Chief Crozier said he will recommend two promotions at that time. Fire Chief Gareau said he will recommend one.

W. Warwick Council to Ask the State To Reroute Heavy Crompton Traffic

PROV. JOURNAL 4/21/53

The West Warwick Town Council, at a special meeting last night, voted to ask the state traffic commission to reroute heavy truck traffic off steep hills and bad curves on Route 3, Crompton.

Councilmen acted upon request of Rep. Thaddeus Kraus, who has been aroused about the hazard for Cowesett Avenue School pupils since an oil truck landed in the school yard two weeks ago.

Kraus pointed out that the road has been the scene of numerous accidents, including 32 crashes at Begos gas station.

He said he had received many phone calls from parents who are worried that their children might be hurt while at play in the school yard. They have asked that barriers be erected around the school, he said.

State officials have told him that a proposed new road from Quaker Lane to Nooseneck Hill Road would take traffic off Route 3, Crompton, but its construction awaits federal funds, Kraus said. Meantime, he said, there would be some relief if trucks were diverted down Division Road, but it is up to the council to take it up with the state traffic commission.

Councilmen, in a prior closed

meeting in the town clerk's office, instructed her to communicate with the school committee regarding a letter from Crompton Veterans Organization, Town Clerk Susan V. Lamb said. The letter asked the council to consider abandoning Cowesett Avenue School and to take immediate steps to protect pupils there.

The council also:

Granted sidewalk and applications of Lionel Lachance, Joseph E. Kelly, Ernest Fleury and Mrs. Ann O'Brien.

Granted filling station license to Vincent H. Carlow, Cowesett Avenue, tanks to have 6300 gallons capacity.

Accepted quitclaim deed from Richard A. and Martin J. Sinnott for land on Sinnott Street used for street widening.

Certified action of the building inspector in approving an application to the State Department of Health by Miss Anne Lavigne and Miss Rose Lavigne for a license to conduct a home for aged and convalescent persons at 16 Potter Avenue. It is an area zoned class B, Mrs. Lamb said.

Authorized Langevin Post, VFW, to hold poppy days May 22-23 in Arctic.

West Warwick Teachers' Plan OK'd by Board

PROV. JOURNAL 4/21/53

A schedule submitted by representatives of the West Warwick Teachers Alliance, AFL, giving teachers greater annual sickness and death leave benefits, was approved unanimously last night by the school committee.

The plan, as outlined by Ellen Perkins, fifth grade teacher at Main Street School and chairman of the group, calls for a maximum of 90 days which may be accumulated by teachers with over 20 years' service. Teachers in this category will get a possible 20 days off each school year.

Teachers with one to 10 years service get 10 days off a year with pay with a maximum of 30 days which may be accumulated, and those in the 10-20-year bracket would rate 15 days off a year with a maximum of 60.

West Warwick teachers before last night got four days off a year, which could be accumulated for five years.

Sickness Pay

In the event of personal illness, a teacher may get full pay under the new schedule until all the days accumulated have been exhausted. For the illness of a member of the immediate family on which a teacher has to be out, full pay minus the substitute's pay will be given, but this allowance may not exceed five days.

On deaths in the immediate family, a teacher will be allowed five days off with pay, and on the death of any relative or a friend the teacher is allowed off enough time to attend the funeral without loss of pay.

The teachers attending, Ruth Rose of the junior high school, off the road.

Helen Keenan, senior high school, and Raymond Keating, principal of Main Street School and president of the Alliance, said they had no figures to compare the extra cost, but it was thought to be not much more than was incurred under the old setup.

Schedule Approved

The governor's recommended salary schedule of a minimum of \$2600 for teachers was approved by the committee after Supt. Masie E. Quinn pointed out that it would cost \$6300 to put West Warwick teachers in conformity with the proposed salary plan.

West Warwick's minimum teacher pay is \$2400, with a maximum of \$4800. Dr. Quinn said West Warwick is one of the few towns backing the plan.

The committee will work with the town council and solicitor in trying to get something done through the State Division of Roads and Bridges about the Cowesett Avenue School, where a tank truck recently plummeted into the school yard.

This incident, which happened after school hours, prompted the Crompton veterans' organization to write the committee asking abandonment of the school to be considered.

Vincent J. Lukowicz, committee chairman, said the group is not ready to abandon the school yet, as no arrangements have been made for the pupils, but he thought that if another fence could be erected at the curb of Cowesett Avenue, running parallel with the present fence to Main Street, it would stop most vehicles that might go

3 Fire, 2 Police

Promotions Told

PROV. JOURNAL 4/23/53
West Warwick Council

Swears in 16 Men

For Both Departments

Pawtuxet Valley Office } Telephone
15 Washington Street } VA 1-8200
West Warwick } VA 1-7067

Coincident with swearing in of 16 new police and firemen, the West Warwick town council last night made several promotions in the two departments.

In police force changes, Sgt. Joseph F. Pontarelli, night commander, was elevated to lieutenant, and Corp. Leo Ritchotte was raised to sergeant.

Pvt. Joseph Lionel St. John, who has been acting as a platoon commander in the fire department for a year, was made a captain.

Two changes in titles in the fire department, involving no pay raises, also were approved. Raoul Gareau, master mechanic, won the rank of captain, and Michael Pimental, electrician, the title of superintendent of fire alarms.

Promotions were on recommendation of Police Chief Groleau and Fire Chief Gareau.

Pontarelli is the first Italo-American to hold a high rank in the police force. He has been a policeman since 1939, with the exception of about two years as a shore patrol specialist in the Navy in World War II and two years when a Republican administration controlled the town. He lives at 15 School Street, Crompton.

Ritchotte of 24 Summit Avenue, Phenix, has been a member of the force in one capacity or another since 1932, with the exception of 1946-48, when a Republican administration controlled the town, and a period when he was in business. He has been a regular for about nine years and a corporal since the permanent police force was set up in 1949.

St. John, who lives at 24 Hepburn Street, Crompton, has had 24 years' firefighting experience. He was deputy chief of the old Crompton fire department for 15 years. During World War II he was deputy chief of the Air Force fire department at Hillsgrove and also served in the crash and rescue squad at Quonset Point Naval Air Station.

When a shortened 56-hour week starts for firemen after eight new men are trained, another officer vacancy will be filled on the fire force, Chief Gareau said.

A protest yesterday from fire department call men at Natick fire station over appointment of John Martone as a fireman was not mentioned by the town administration last night. Martone was in the group sworn in. Natick call men have written to Democratic town committeemen protesting that Martone had not been a call man and call men who applied should have been considered.

The call men's protest is not likely to have any effect now that Martone is sworn in. Town committeemen have indicated that they would not reconsider their recommendations to the town council.



Captain St. John



Lieutenant Pontarelli



Sergeant Ritchotte

State Staff Photos

Natick Firemen Oppose Martone Appointment

PROV. JOURNAL 4/22/53
Pawtuxet Valley Office } Telephone
15 Washington Street } VA 1-8200
West Warwick } VA 1-7067

Natick firemen last night agreed to ask the West Warwick Democratic Town Committee to try to delay the swearing in of John Martone who, with seven others, was appointed Monday night by the town council to a probationary job with the fire department.

Letters will be sent to John Dilucci and Frank Giorgio, Natick committeemen, and Sheriff Alfred Richard, chairman, requesting they seek reconsideration of the appointment because Martone "has had no fire fighting experience" and five applicants with five or more years experience were passed up.

A meeting of call men from all four West Warwick fire stations has been scheduled for 10 a.m. Sunday to make a decision on the appointment of Martone, Leon Lukowicz, a spokesman for the call men, said last night after calling the presidents of all four companies.

Ceremony Slated

Swearing in ceremonies of all eight firemen have been scheduled for 8 o'clock tonight in a special council meeting. Anthony C. Cinquegrana, president of the Natick group, said last night he believes the committee will reconsider Martone's appointment.

However Francis J. Fazzano, town council president, said earlier in the evening that all appointees will be sworn in and will be put on a probationary status for one year. If they make good at the end of the year they will be kept he said; if they do not, they won't stay. Fazzano could not be reached after the Natick group's action became known.

Only one of the six applicants who are now call men from the Natick district were picked by the council, Cinquegrana said. He is Fulgence D. Charland.

Of Martone Cinquegrana said, "I've known him all my life, and I like him, but there are members in the fire department who deserve the appointment."

Checked Records

Democratic officials Monday night said they understood Martone had once been a fireman in the Natick fire district. Cinquegrana,

however, said he has checked the records and found no mention of Martone being a fireman.

In a letter to the committee, the Natick group said they feel, "That an injustice has been made."

"We feel that the town committee has overlooked the experience of these applicants (the five call men who applied and were not chosen), all of whom have had five or more years of fire-fighting experience with our department.

"It may be advisable for the committee to reconsider the appointment and delay the swearing-in of John Martone."

It was signed by Cinquegrana as president.

\$125,000 Too High is Claim by De Ciantis

R. V. Jones 4/11/53
Says Water Authority Should Not Get Over 30 to 35 Per Cent

Michael DeCiantis, counsel without fee for West Warwick in the Kent County Water Authority rate dispute, said this morning that the \$125,000 more per year which the water authority said last night they will seek, is "definitely too high."

Referring to the approximate 50 per cent increase in rates the water authority said they need for the \$125,000, was also too high. "In no event should the water authority get more than a 30 or 35 per cent increase," he added.

DeCiantis, who is town solicitor of West Warwick, said the water authority needs only \$100,000 more per year and that he is preparing a schedule of rates which he will publicize before calling a mass meeting of water users to consider his own proposed rates.

Did Not Attend

DeCiantis did not attend the meeting of the water authority and representatives of the cities and towns they service held last night at the authority office in West Warwick.

DeCiantis said: "The sum of \$125,000 is definitely too high. The Kent County Water Authority does not need that money. The increase which will be settled upon the water consumers will be much greater than the authority needs and I certainly will not go along for the town of West Warwick and as an individual on the basis that the rate will contain a \$25 minimum with 60 cents extra for each 1000 gallons over 50,000. It's outrageous and it again shows the Kent County Water Authority is trying to get more money than it needs."

Working On Schedule

The town solicitor continued: "I have been working on a schedule of rates which, I believe, will be necessary under the circumstances in order to operate the Kent County Water Authority who paid \$2,250,000 for what they now say is obsolete.

"I shall call a mass meeting of all the consumers who wish to be heard. I shall propose the rates to them and whatever decision is made by them will be the one we will go for. I do not intend to sell the consumers down the river. The consumers are the ones to make the decision. If they accept my proposal that is the one I will recommend. If they do not, it means a fight to the end.

"We will go along and have the public utilities administration hold a hearing and make a decision on the validity of the bonds and make the rates.

"In no event should this authority get more than a 30 or 35 per cent increase.

"I will make public the rates before the mass meeting so the people can study them and make suggestions."

Evening Bulletin 4/29/53

DeCiantis Calls Water Users to Mass Meeting

Says He Has Revised Rate Plan Acceptable to Authority, Bondholders

Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis of West Warwick today called a mass meeting of all Kent County Water Authority customers for Monday at 8 p.m. in Turcotte's Hall, Brookside Avenue, Arctic.

DeCiantis announced he has a revised schedule of water rates which the water authority and its bondholders will accept.

If the mass meeting of consumers is favorable to the plan, DeCiantis will withdraw his petition to Thomas A. Kennelly, state public utilities administrator, asking for a hearing on the legality of the authority's bonds.

The way would then be paved for an end to the rate fight, which began more than two years ago when the authority raised its rates 150 per cent. The battle has seen the General Assembly roll back the rates, the courts decide that the authority is under state public utility control, and the authority persist in filing for the 150 per cent boost.

DeCiantis, who is legal counsel without fee for West Warwick in the water rate controversy, urged interested consumers in every community served by the authority to attend the meeting. The authority serves West Warwick, Coventry, East Greenwich, part of Warwick, southern Scituate and Fiskeville and Oaklawn sections of Cranston.

DeCiantis' new plan still calls for a 33 1/2 per cent increase in the mini-

mum charge, as he announced earlier this month. That charge would be \$20 for 50,000 gallons of water. It is currently \$15 for 50,000 gallons or less.

But it increases slightly in other categories.

It is substantially lower than the 50 per cent increase plan, on which a committee of representatives of the communities had agreed with the authority, and at which DeCiantis balked.

His plan would give the authority \$280,439 in revenue from water users, plus \$68,125 from other sources, for a total annual income of \$348,564, DeCiantis said. The plan agreed on by community representatives would have provided about \$375,000, he said.

The new plan and revenue income follows:

Minimum charge of \$20 for 50,000 gallons, figuring 7036 water users—\$40,720.

From 50,000 gallons to 350,000 gallons usage, figuring minimum charge of \$20 for first 50,000 gallons and 48 cents per thousand gallons above that—\$80,371.

From 350,000 to 3,000,000 gallons of water at a charge of 40 cents per thousand gallons—\$38,016.

From 3,000,000 to 10,000,000 gallons at a rate of 30 cents per thousand gallons—\$18,834.

Over 10,000,000 gallons, rate of 10 cents per thousand gallons—\$2498.

The schedule DeCiantis announced earlier this month differed from the one announced today, in that it would have been slightly easier on large commercial users. It provided a charge of only 40 cents per thousand gallons for usage of from 50,000 to 400,000 gallons. It would have charged only 35 cents per thousand gallons for usage from 400,000 to 3,100,000 gallons.

When he announced the schedule earlier this month, the water authority and bondholders contacted him, DeCiantis said, and the schedule made public today is the upshot of negotiations.

"This one is acceptable to the water authority, and they are agreeable to filing it in place of their proposed schedule that carries a 150 per cent increase," DeCiantis said. "Before that, I feel that I should present it to the consumers. If it meets with their approval, that will settle the matter."

DeCiantis' petition challenging legality of the authority's \$2,500,000 in bonds has been referred by Kennelly to Attorney General Powers for an opinion. No opinion has yet been announced. It would become a moot question if consumers agree to the new and lower schedule, DeCiantis said.

Contributing to making the compromise schedule possible is an offer by bondholders to declare a five-year moratorium on their requirement that the authority set aside a certain amount of money in a sinking fund.

The authority has been unable to borrow money, because of its rocky financial condition, to complete a tie-in with Scituate Reservoir and build a new standpipe in East Greenwich, DeCiantis said that, with the new schedule, he has a positive assurance that a Rhode Island bank will lend the authority \$100,000 to make the improvements

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15 Landlords Ask Rent Control End

P.J. 4/30/53

West Warwick Hearing Attracts Only Them; Town Curbs End Today

Everyone present favored away with rent controls at a hearing held last night by the Warwick town council.

Fifteen landlords told the council that being a landlord under present regulations is a losing proposition. No tenants appeared to present their views.

The council received a petition signed by 28 landlords. It noted numerous newspaper advertisements indicate there is no shortage.

With the high cost of labor and materials and looming increases in taxes and water rates, the landlords said it will be impossible for them to meet the situation unless they "have a little help from our tenants."

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, said the discussion probably was impractical at this time because possible state and federal regulations are pending.

Rent controls voted by the town last year will expire today. A federal bill to extend controls to Aug. 1 is on President Eisenhower's desk, but not yet signed. State legislation that would extend controls for two years at the option of communities, after a public hearing, has passed the House. But it still is in a Senate committee as the General Assembly heads toward adjournment this week.

All of the landlords were critical of treatment given them at the rent control office. They said they gave up going there after becoming involved in red tape and "getting the run-around."

Lionel Laboissonniere, denying there is a housing shortage, said many apartments go begging for weeks.

De Ciantis asked if he would feel different if a law were passed that allowed higher rent if the tenant agreed to it. Laboissonniere said he would still favor abolition of controls.

"I could fix up apartments, 20 of them identical, and rent control would allow \$6.50 for one, \$6.70 for another, \$7.40 for another. Is that fair?" Laboissonniere said.

Council Faces Ultimatum From Angry Firemen

Providence Journal 4/29/53

Call and volunteer firemen yesterday voted to send an "ultimatum" to the West Warwick town council that it rescind within 30 days the appointment of John Martone, one of a group of eight probationary one-year appointments made Monday.

But Normand C. Chevalier, who is heading the nine-member committee drawing up and getting signatures to the petition, said last night that nothing is definite yet.

What action the firemen will take at the end of the 30-day period is not definite either. No decision was that they walk off their jobs, although during the angry two-hour meeting several threats to take such action were heard.

Another meeting to see how the action is progressing has been called for 10 a.m. next Sunday at the Crompton fire station.

Leon Lukowicz, a spokesman, said, "I don't know what's going to happen. The lot wanted to quit." Martone's appointment came un-

der fire after applications of five call men from the Natick district where Martone will work were passed up. Martone, the call men say, has no fire-fighting experience.

Francis J. Fazzano, president of the town council, said, "I see no reason despite the action of the call men to change my vote."

The men have been appointed for a year on a probationary basis, he said. The council appointed him and if he has shown the qualifications at the end of the year he will be put on a permanent basis, he added.

Sheriff Alfred Richard, chairman of the Democratic town committee, withheld comment until he sees the petition.

There are about 150 call men and volunteers in the department, 80 or 90 of whom, Lukowicz said, are call men. Call men receive \$50 a year. Volunteers get nothing.

Chevalier's job is to get as many of these 150 men to sign the petition as possible. He now has between 35 and 40 signatures, he said.

W. Warwick Board OK's Agreement On Water Rates

P.J. 4/30/53

The West Warwick Town Council last night approved the action of Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis in bringing about an agreement with the Kent County Water Authority on a proposed 33 1/2 per cent increase in water rates.

It authorized DeCiantis to take any action necessary in proceedings pending before the state public utility administrator to bring about the new rate in place of the 150 per cent boost first asked by the authority.

In the light of the authority's willingness to accept a lower rate increase, the council authorized DeCiantis to withdraw his petition questioning legality of the authority's bonds. The council commended and thanked DeCiantis for his work in the rate case. He has represented the town without fee.

Francis J. Fazzano, council president, also issued a proclamation endorsing Elk's National Youth Activity Day, being observed by West Warwick Elks and lodged through out the country today. He praised the Elks for their work for the benefit of youth.

50 PER CENT INCREASE IN WATER RATES SEEN

P. V. Times 4/1/55

Sources Serviced by Kent County Authority Approve \$125,000 Added Income

The Kent County Water Authority last night received unanimous support from representatives of the cities and towns they service with water to go before the public utilities commission with request for a new rate to provide the authority with an additional \$125,000 a year income for at least the next five years.

The new proposal which this time met with accord with the communities, will mean an approximate increase in rates of 50 per cent, and will supersede the 150 per cent increase, now before the public utilities commission.

Harmony prevailed throughout the two-hour session held at the water authority office in West Warwick. The vote for a new rate to provide an extra \$125,000 income to put the fiscal books in the black was made unanimous by representatives of the cities and town attending, including Rep. Gerard DiFiore of West Warwick; Charles Anderson of Coventry and West Greenwich, towns which he serves as town solicitor; Councilman J. William Corr Jr. of East Greenwich; Clayton Marcille, chairman of the board of water commissioners, Warwick; Sam Tourtellot of Scituate; G. Edward Silva, Fourth Ward committeeman of Cranston. Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis was not in attendance.

Rep. DiFiore Proposal

Rep. DiFiore of West Warwick proposed to the authority last week that the minimum rate be raised from \$15 to \$25 for 50,000 gallons of water with a 30-cent per thousand gallon charge above the 50,000 gallon limit. Last night Joseph D. Guillemette of Jenks & Ballou, the water authority engineers, said that he had been impressed with DiFiore's sugges-

tion and he estimated that if his proposal were effected the revenue would be \$81,000 per year over expenses. Col. Patrick H. Quinn of West Warwick, water authority chairman, asked Guillemette what figure would be needed beyond the 50,000 gallons to meet the \$125,000 needed. Displaying a chart Guillemette said that under the 60-cent rate \$130,000 would be received over expenses, and he was considering the fact that the water users of East Greenwich would be paying \$15 more a year to meet the minimum charge of \$25.

The new rate suggestion expected to amount to an increase of 50 per cent in the water users

marked the first time the water authority has received accord from the cities and towns they service since they came out with their first proposed increase in 1950 which required a customer to pay \$15 for 20,000 gallons and \$37.50 for 50,000 gallons for which they previously paid \$15. Spearheaded by DeCiantis, the water authority met with rebuff at the hands of the General Assembly and Supreme Court who ruled the water authority was under jurisdiction of the public utilities administration and must consequently file a rate schedule with that office. Bills were even introduced in the legislature to remove the water authority members from office. A group of citizens from West Warwick went to Washington D.C. to have the Office of Price Stabilization consider the proposed rates.

Income Required

The \$125,000 additional income figure was presented by H. C. Harrington of Ernst & Ernst auditing firm. He said that the annual report of the authority last year showed total costs exceeded income by over \$30,000 with a result the bond payments were not made as scheduled.

Harrington said the authority needs, to meet its obligations such as providing adequate water supply for fire fighting, operating costs and debt obligations, the following amount of money based on five years: operating costs, \$114,830; \$29,431 for taxes to the communities in the system based on the last assessment; \$17,225 for maintenance expenses including labor; \$45,000 for payment of the bond principal; \$48,653 for the bond interest; \$19,150 for the sinking fund; total expenses, \$274,289.

Harrington said that as of today the authority owes in accounts

payable, \$134,504.29, including \$66,750.60 in taxes to cities and towns. The amount of \$75,490.94 is owed the authority by consumers.

Continuing, Harrington said the engineers estimate the minimum needed to put the authority in service to do business is \$370,000 or \$74,000 a year, raising the annual expenses based on a five-year figure to \$360,089. That amount plus \$15,000 for contingencies (a cushion reserve), raises the amount required to \$375,089 per year. With today's income of \$250,000 it shows the authority needs \$125,000 more per year, or an increase of about 50 per cent, he said.

Needed Improvements

Guillemette said that the water authority is in need of the following improvements: \$25,000 to tie in the pumping station with the Scituate reservoir; \$60,000 for a new stand pipe on West Street, West Warwick; \$85,000 for a new stand pipe and 500 ft. of 16-in. pipe in the Cowesett section of Warwick; \$10,000 a year for connections to new dwellings and buildings; \$40,000 for new mains to provide adequate pressures and better distribution for the next five years; \$10,000 to clean the present mains.

Stuart H. Tucker, counsel for the authority said he felt that through the agreement a new rate will be put into effect by the public utilities administration.

Edwin H. Arnold, Coventry's representative to the water authority, said that were it not for the leniency shown by the banks for a five-year moratorium on re-establishing a sinking fund, the water authority would never be able to affect the 50 per cent increase.

Guillemette said that the cost which the authority paid for the water companies, \$2,065,500, today would be two to four times as much, or \$4,000,000 to \$8,000,000.

In answer to DiFiore, Arnold said that after a re-survey is made after five years, with the 50 per cent increase, a reduction in the rates would depend upon the valuation of the dollar. Tucker told DiFiore that under the present fiscal condition of the water authority (in the red), they can't borrow one cent for capital improvements. At Anderson's suggestion, the rate will be offered to the public utilities administration and not just the request for \$125,000 additional income per year with the administration singly determining the rate.

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS FROM
OCTOBER 30, 1952 to APRIL 30, 1953



Scrap Book

Fazzano Charges Afflick Actions 'Degrading' Town

Francis J. Fazzano, West Warwick Town Council president, last night championed Town Solicitor Michael DeCiantis and Police Chief Groleau, at a hectic council meeting marked by heated exchanges between Fazzano and Robert R. Afflick, attorney and spokesman for an anonymous anti-gambling citizens' committee.

Fazzano blasted Afflick and backed the two officials unqualifiedly after Afflick asked whether the council, which appoints them, approved their parts in preliminaries to the case of Eston W. Phillips, 29, of Woodside Avenue, West Warwick bettor who has testified in court that Walter Forsys, 39, of Crompton, Welshed on a \$3100 horse bet win he made in October.

Specifically, Afflick said he wanted to know whether the council approved the fact that DeCiantis, while town solicitor, accepted Phillips as his client to try to recover the \$3100 by court action. He was unable to say much about Groleau, as Fazzano insisted repeatedly that he wanted to have nothing to do with an anonymous committee and that the matter was not properly before the council, since state police charges are pending against both men in court.

Scoring Afflick for "degrading the name of West Warwick in the eyes of the state over a single bookie case," Fazzano pointed out that the council has given Groleau a vote of confidence and declared that DeCiantis "is a man of honesty and integrity, with a long record of public service, and he has probably done more to stamp out gambling in the town than any other person."

Says Discussion 'Improper'
Although Afflick said he had checked with Presiding Justice G. Frederick Frost of Superior Court and been told that he could properly bring the matter before the town council, Fazzano asserted that, although he has high respect for the judge, he thought as an attorney it was improper to engage in public discussion of the facts of cases pending in court.

Fazzano said that DeCiantis, on his return from Florida last month, had explained in the press that, before taking Phillips case, he had asked him whether he had reported the gambling to police and Phillips said he had.

Regarding Groleau's telling afflick and Phillips while DeCiantis was in Florida that he wanted to wait for legal advice before moving against both men, Fazzano said he had advised Groleau he was right in wanting to wait for advice.

It was after Groleau told Afflick he wanted to wait that Afflick and Phillips went to state police, who then arrested both Phillips and Forsys, charging one with placing a bet and the other with accepting it.

With Forsys and a large number of his friends from Crompton listening in the packed council chamber, Afflick said he didn't intend to discuss the cases now pending in court "except as they are preliminary to the actual time of commission of the offense" and the court trials.

When Fazzano said he didn't understand, Afflick said he intended to talk of preliminaries to the District Court trial of a private complaint by Phillips last month that Forsys threatened to kill him over the bet, after refusing to pay him. (Forsys was found guilty on that charge by Judge James W. Leighton and placed under \$2000 bond to keep the peace.)

Fazzano then berated afflick, saying, "these articles in the press served no purpose than to degrade the town in the eyes of the state and unfairly point to one bookie case."

"With reference to Chief Groleau, we have given him a vote of confidence and not for political reasons. No man could take the job and guarantee there would be no bookmaking in town. Regarding DeCiantis, I have known him since I was a kid. I was introduced to him by a judge of the Superior Court who set him up as an example for me before I went to law school. I served under Attorney General John Nolan and he taught me what the real Mike DeCiantis was like and the good job he did for the people of the state. He has been praised by the courts of the state and is a man of character, integrity and honesty."

He continued, "I will not stand for the attempted purpose of using this council chamber to degrade the character of a citizen who has done as much as any one person for the people of the town. He made a statement in the press. It was clear and forthright and, to me, needs no further explanation. And he told me several days before he left that he was going to Florida."

Fazzano said he had spent three hours with DeCiantis before the last election, when he first ran for office, and reached an agreement with him "on how we stood on the proposition of people who wanted to gamble. We had an understanding and shook hands on it that there would be no gambling. I'd stake my reputation on the word of Mr. DeCiantis."

"If the citizens' committee makes itself known," he added, "and says this is going on and this is the proof, it will get 1000 per cent cooperation. As long as I'm president of the town council, there'll be no gestapo type organizations. Bookmaking is to be condemned as against the law, but it's not like the Mafia or Murder, Inc., and there's no need to rumor that people might not be safe. I have no respect for the way they make a living, but have no fear they're

going to go around shooting cops or decent citizens if they get anything against them."

At one point, Fazzano referred to the incident as "a lousy little bookie case that you'll have as long as you have race tracks in the country." He added he does not condone booking, but said, "this has been blown up to such proportions that it has become ridiculous."

Afflick protested, "It's not one lousy little bookie case. A man's life has been threatened. I haven't been received here as a citizen should."

"Certainly, I'm mad," Fazzano said, "and anyone would be when he sees an attempt to besmirch and degrade a person, whether he be Joe Smith or Michael DeCiantis, who is trying to do the right thing."

Afflick asked whether Fazzano remembered his calling him and saying he would like to speak in Groleau's behalf at a council meeting where the chief was called in. Fazzano said he remembered and was amazed "as you had criticized him for not making an arrest."

"Don't believe everything you see in the press," said Afflick. "I said, if the chief took no action, we were going to State Police. Your tone is not commensurate with your offer of cooperation."

"What happened at the arraignment justified my advice to the chief to wait for DeCiantis' advice," Fazzano said. He said many more serious cases are delayed in higher courts and recalled that Afflick recently represented two alleged criminals out on bail in a State case, but was not present, nor were they, on the day the case was called.

Afflick recalled the gangland style slaying of Carlton M. O'Brien in West Warwick last Spring, but Fazzano belittled "any mention of that case in the same breath with this."

"Many things you call ridiculous are at the root of evils in our country today," said Afflick.

"Let's get it straight," answered Fazzano. "I thing my background is decent. I moved to West Warwick to raise a family here. You can tell your committee, if they have any ideas I'm going to stay here and allow it to become a hotbed of gambling, they're nuts. Regarding the O'Brien murder, regardless where he lived, that man was going to be killed."

"You don't have to defend your character," Afflick said. "It occupies a high place in my esteem."

"It seems to me that's the end of it," Fazzano said.

"Is it your position that it's alright for Mr. DeCiantis to accept a retainer from a law violator to settle an illegal matter while he is town solicitor?" Afflick asked.

"That's not what he said," Fazzano declared. "He conducted himself with integrity and honesty. I hope I can keep him on as town solicitor to keep on giving honest, able service."

"Was his conduct in keeping with the oath of office he took as town solicitor?" asked Afflick.

"Yes, it is," Fazzano said. "I know he'll never violate his oath of office as town solicitor. I will never lose five minutes sleep worrying about Mr. DeCiantis doing anything not for the best interests of the town. He came up the hard way and commands the respect of the bench and bar of the state and of its leading citizens."

"A man who has done that has a greater heritage to protect," said Afflick. "I came up the hard way myself."

"Right," said Fazzano. "I'm 1000 per cent satisfied with his actions in this entire situation."

"It's for you to determine whether the town solicitor could accept a case of this kind," Afflick said. "My view is that when he became town solicitor he became attorney for the people, akin to the attorney general in the state. He relinquished the right to become an attorney for a law violator to settle an illegal matter."

"Just a moment, doesn't that apply to any attorney as well as town solicitor?" asked Fazzano. "I differ with your contention of the law. He advised the man to make a complaint. There's no reason to rehash the alleged incident."

"Once your hand or mine, or Mr. DeCiantis' goes up in the air in the oath of office, we relinquish the right to take such a case," Afflick declared. "The issue is not one little bookie case. It's far reaching and deeper than that. There was the threat to kill and the murder in the town last spring."

"There are not going to be any murders," Fazzano asserted. "You've made a terrible mistake moving into the town if you think that the kind of town you moved into. It's ridiculous for the press, which will naturally report what's been said. If people pick up the paper and see the two things mentioned in the same breath some will say within a week that O'Brien was killed because of the Phillips-Forsys case."

He went on, "All decent citizens should have a certain amount of pride in their home town. It's no good to give such a distorted version to the people of the state."

Afflick answered, "It's for you to say whether the entrance of a town official into a case to settle an illegal case is commensurate with the oath of office. The town solicitor left the bag of non-feasance to be held by the chief and I don't think that fair to the chief. He said it was reported to the chief Oct. 24 and nothing was done until the state police moved in and did it. You answered the issue before it was brought up. I thank you for the opportunity I have had."



DURING TOWN COUNCIL MEETING in West Warwick, Robert R. Afflick (left), attorney and Citizens Committee spokesman, criticizes the preliminary handling of a bookie case by Town Solicitor Michael De-

Ciantis and Police Chief Groleau. At right is his client, Eston W. Phillips, who has testified that the bookie, Walter Forsys, did not pay him \$3100 which he won as a bet in a horse race.

—State Staff Photo by John B. Lake Jr.